FBIS

DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Latin America

Vol VI No 039 *27 February 1984*

ARGENTINA

CLARIN Interviews Foreign Minister Caputo [19 Feb] B 1
Foreign Ministry Denies Receiving UK Response B 6
Departure Ban on Military Still in Force B 7
Former Air Force Commander Lami Dozo Detained B 7
Montonero Leader Warns Alfonsin in Interview B 7
Argentine, Uruguayan Regimes Sued for Abduction [BUENOS AIRES HERALD 23 Feb] B 8
Former Ambassador's Body Reportedly Found B 9
1983 Grain Exports Reported; USSR Top Buyer B 9
Briefs: New Cuban, Honduran Ambassadors B 9

BOLIVIA

Armed Forces Deny Coup Rumors; Everything Normal C 1
Army Leader 'Enjoys Confidence' of Government C 1

BRAZIL

Foreign Minister on Relations With U.S. [O GLOBO 24 Feb] D 1
Nicaraguan Praises Brazil's Contadora Support [Managua] D 1
Vice President Comments on Foreign Commitments D 1
Chavez 'Hinting' at Creating New Party D 2
300,000 Attended Direct Elections Rally D 2

CHILE

Serious Incidents During Pinochet Tour in South E 1
    Residents Protest E 1
    'Hundreds' Boo E 1
Official: Sweden Interferes in Domestic Affairs E 2
Denial of Safe-Conducts Disrespectful to Pope E 2
Socialist Leader Seeks Asylum in Argentina E 3
Text of Draft of Political Parties Bill [EL MERCURIO 2 Feb] E 4
    Draft Termed 'Antidemocratic' [EL MERCURIO 20 Feb] E 14
Temporary Return of Former Officials Authorized E 14
    Ex-Minister Bittar E 14
    Ex-Senator Sule E 14
Briefs: Ambassador to Canada Accepted E 14

COLOMBIA

Foreign Minister Comments on C.A. Issues F 1

PARAGUAY

Montanaro Says MOPOCO on U.S. Subversive List [ABC COLOR 24 Feb] H 1
    National Accord Reaction [ABC COLOR 24 Feb] H 1

ABC on 'Police Persecution' of Returned Exiles [ABC COLOR 23 Feb] H 2
MOPOCO Chairman Summoned, 'Warned' by Police [ULTIMA HORA 21 Feb] H 3

PERU

State of Emergency Extended to Another Province J 1
Government Promulgates Intelligence Laws [EL COMERCIO 13 Feb] J 1
Student Demonstrations Politically Oriented J 1

CENTRAL AMERICA

Contadora Meetings Set for 27-29 February [Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA 25 Feb] P 1

BELIZE

Washington Meeting Produces Economic Aid Pledges P 1

COSTA RICA

Agreement on Renegotiating Debt to Mexico Signed P 2
Attack on 6 Rural Guards Under Investigation P 3
Communique Issued on Visit of Jamaica's Seaga P 4

EL SALVADOR

Armed Forces Reaffirm Neutrality in Elections [EL MUNDO 24 Feb] P 7
PAISA, PPS, ARENA May Form Political Coalition P 7
    ARENA 'Open to Coalitions' [LA PRENSA GRAFICA 24 Feb] P 7
UPD Announces Support for Christian Democrats P 8
PCN's Guerrero Stresses Corruption, Justice P 9
Reportage on Government, Rebel Military Activity P 12
    FMLN Attacks in Santa Anna [EL MUNDO 22 Feb] P 12
    Army Clashes With Terrorists P 12
    Sabotage Causes San Vicente Blackout P 12
    Army Stages Combing Action [LA PRENSA GRAFICA 25 Feb] P 13
    FMLN Claims 6 Casualties [Venceremos] P 13
    Guerrillas Ambush Train [Farabundo Marti] P 13
    FMLN Releases 16 POW's [Farabundo Marti] P 14
Ruben Zamora Outlines FMLN-FDR Peace Proposals [Mexico City EL DIA 20 Feb] P 14
FMLN Announces New Political-Military Campaign [Farabundo Marti] P 15

HONDURAS

Belizean Prime Minister Price Arrives for Visit P 16
    Holds Press Conference P 16
    Meets With Suazo Cordova P 17

NICARAGUA

Humberto Ortega Sends Greetings to Ustinov P 17
FRG's Wischnewski Ends Visit to Managua P 18
Iranian Official Invites Ortega to Visit [Tehran IRNA] P 18
Saharan Delegation Arrives on Official Visit P 18
    Foreign Ministry Issues Communique P 19

- Spanish Communist Leader Comments on Visit P 19
- International Organizations To Witness Elections P 20
- Nunez Explains Supreme Electoral Council's Tasks P 20
- State Council Approves Draft Electoral Law P 20
  - 9 Articles Passed P 21
  - 11 More Articles Approved P 21
- PCDN Coordinator on Party Rift, Factions P 22
- Appointment of New Militia Leaders Announced P 23
- Army Intelligence Chief Julio Ramos on Contras P 23
  - Predicts U.S. Involvement P 24
- FDN Peace Plan Asks Removal of Sandinist Junta P 24
- ARDE Mines Waters Off Bluff Port, Issues Warning P 26
- Briefs: Agreements With Argentina; Party Secretary Resigns P 26

CUBA

- 15th Congress of Central Trade Unions Concludes Q 1
  - Main Report Approved Q 1
  - Castro Addresses Congress Q 1
  - Text of Speech Q 1
  - Awards Ceremony Q 16
- Indications Seen of Troop Pullout From Angola [AFP] Q 17
- Oramas, Tanzanian Envoy on UN Namibia Resolution Q 18
- FAR Commemorates Soviet Army, Navy Day Q 18
- Carlos Rafael Rodriguez Receives Lima Mayor Q 18

CLARIN INTERVIEWS FOREIGN MINISTER CAPUTO

PY211245 Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 19 Feb 84 pp 14, 15

[Interview with Argentine Foreign Minister Dante Caputo by Roberto Pablo Guareschi -- time and place not given]

[Text] [Guareschi] It has been said that you and the president discuss matters other than foreign relations. What are those matters?

[Caputo] Foreign relations are not an isolated area, but part of an overall political process. We talk about the country, because it involves a set of problems. There is, however, a natural specialization resulting from the problems that each ministry has to deal with; thus, the lengthier conversations on general issues of the past have turned into shorter talks which are perhaps more meaningful. Therefore, my conversations with the president deal with all Argentine policy problems; I would say they deal with trends, with our political strategy, and with how successfully we are implementing that strategy.

[Guareschi] Let us talk about an issue connected with several areas: the Malvinas. What are the contents of the Argentine reply to Great Britain?

[Caputo] I cannot disclose them yet. Our answer is based on our desire for a peaceful solution and, at the same time, on a very clear claim for the restoration of what Argentines and a large sector of the international community regard as our legitimate rights over the islands. We shall not agree to the resumption of talks and negotiations on the Malvinas if it means that we must relinquish our sovereignty claims.

[Guareschi] Right. The issue should be included in the agenda. But the British do not want to discuss it. Is there any way out of this situation?

[Caputo] Our answer has gone as far as it can in stressing our support for dialogue, peace, and goodwill. If the British Government hardens its position, the international community will fairly well recognize which party is unwilling to hold a dialogue. Any impartial observer realizes that Argentina cannot be asked to relinquish its sovereignty rights in order to enter into a dialogue.

[Guareschi] But that is not the only issue that jeopardizes our national interests....

[Caputo] In addition to the topics that the British Government wants to include in the agenda, there are issues that directly affect the interests of Argentina: the "exclusion zone," the fortification of the islands, and the danger of deploying nuclear arms or weapons in the islands. We believe that these issues must be addressed from the start.

[Guareschi] Does Argentina still advocate the deployment of UN forces in the Malvinas, a proposal that was rejected by Great Britain?

[Caputo] We still insist on this step because we believe it will be a way out of the situation. The British maintain that it is necessary to set up a powerful military structure on the islands for defense and security reasons. We maintain that the presence of that "fortress" in the Malvinas endangers our territorial integrity; in fact, there will be a powerful military base 600 miles off the Argentine coast. Given the position that each side has adopted, there is apparently no way out of the situation. Thus, the presence of an international peace-keeping force may provisionally meet the demands of each side. That is, if they want some sort of guarantee, it will be given by this international force, and we will not feel threatened by the presence of this force, because it will be a UN force. This is the kind of specific initiative that we have adopted to work out a solution to a situation that apparently has none.

[Guareschi] The British Government has been traditionally unwilling to change its mind once it has adopted a position....

[Caputo] It will then be clear that there is a problem of obstinacy here, and there is a price to be paid for this kind of conduct in the eyes of the international public.

[Guareschi] It gives the impression that for some time, we can only expect gesturing and positioning for the sake of the international audience, not substantive negotiations.

[Caputo] The British send out messages seeking dialogue on the one hand, and on the other formulate rigid positions.

[Guareschi] What happened with the Beagle, has it been moved away from the forefront?

[Caputo] Right now very important negotiations are taking place. These are the most arduous moments of the negotiations because central points are being discussed.

[Guareschi] The islands, for instance. Will Chile keep them?

[Caputo] It is a process of general negotiation. The exchange of positions and mutual concessions are related to the set of questions being negotiated. So I cannot make any statement which might hurt Argentina's negotiating position.

[Guareschi] Very well, but there is something that the Foreign Ministry and President Alfonsin have stressed: the two-ocean principle. How can this be guaranteed?

[Caputo] Our position in that regard is quite clear, and we have expressed it to our Chilean counterpart and to the mediation process. That is, the two-ocean principle is central to Argentina's position. The concrete form in which this principle will be upheld will be revealed by the negotiations, which I expect will be completed within a reasonable period of time.

[Guareschi] However, there should be aspects of the negotiations that you can describe.

[Caputo] At this time, I insist that describing aspects of the negotiations will affect questions to be worked out in discussions. It will just undermine the work of the Argentine negotiators in the Vatican, because there is nothing that has been explicitly accepted. Everything will come out of the negotiations.

[Guareschi] That is to say that this is a negotiation in which everything is closed only at the end.

[Caputo] It has many serious restrictions. And the many mistakes which have been committed throughout the conflict's history are the main restriction.

[Guareschi] Not long ago you said that the government seeks symmetrical relations with the United States. What does this mean? The United States does not seem to accept symmetrical relations even with the Soviet Union.

[Caputo] I believe the situation is truly asymmetrical, very asymmetrical, at least because of the size of the two countries, and also because of the power they have in various areas. To suppose that we are in a symmetrical position would be naive. The challenge is to figure out how, despite the inequalities, political relations between the two states can be as symmetrical as possible, as equal as possible, the least unequal....

[Guareschi] How can that be possible for a country like Argentina, which is so weakened.

[Caputo] Obviously, this is the problem. There is no general answer. There is only concrete action that is possible regarding each specific problem that comes up. We fundamentally seek to strengthen Argentina's autonomous capacity so that it should not have to give explanations for its positions. We effectively share Western values. Many times I have made a distinction between lining up with a bloc and belonging to a system of values and culture. I am not saying that we are tied to a Western political bloc. I am saying that Argentina shares fundamental values with the West that are the foundation of its social life. We want autonomy because we defend those values.

[Guareschi] Some experts say that the United States and Argentina have never had very good relations because their economies are not complementary, but competitive. So, relations are always based on questions of ideology, politics, and security, from which Argentina cannot have much advantage.

[Caputo] I believe that is a reason, although not the main reason. The conflict between the two major powers overrides the whole international question. This is the true situation.

[Guareschi] That does not make the question any less ideological.

[Caputo] Not ideological. This is not only a conflict between the U.S. way of life and political thinking and another way of life and political thinking. This conflict manifests itself militarily, in national security matters, and in terms of a very hard political struggle. This is not an abstract question, because it is manifested in a process of mutual destabilization and harassment between the two major powers.

[Guareschi] And this, in your view, takes place in this area?

[Caputo] Yes, it takes place in this area of the world. I am sure that there are many phenomena that have occurred not only in Argentina but in other Latin American countries as well, that are not traceable to purely internal problems, to the struggle between national contenders alone.

[Guareschi] Give us an example.

[Caputo] As I understand it, the terrorist process in Argentina did not come about by itself. Its origin was local, internal, but the dimensions terrorism reached in Argentina cannot be explained only by national causes.

[Guareschi] Do you then connect this process with the East-West conflict?

[Caputo] Yes. And I also say that the dimensions repression reached in Argentina, in ways that are similar to and simultaneous with repression in many Latin American countries, cannot be explained as the exclusive manifestation of local situations. I am not limiting the cause of the confrontation between terrorism and repression in Argentina to foreign factors. I say that the dimension of that confrontation is also an expression of the East-West conflict being staged in Third World countries, in someone else's territory as part of the process of mutual harassment and destabilization between the East and the West.

[Guareschi] For that very reason, the relations between Argentina and the United States are determined by and subject to interests which are not national from our point of view...

[Caputo interrupting] Well...I talked about this position in Quito. The United States must understand that maximum security for its interests within the West's framework is to be found in autonomous processes in Latin America so that the interference of extracontinental powers can be kept out; in processes which, being democratic, are predictable. These conditions, which do not curtail the sovereignty of our states, are the ones we must consolidate. If we can do that, we will have created conditions for international credibility, and dialogue with the United States will be mature and far-reaching. Also, our ability to assume different positions in international matters will be increased considerably.

[Guareschi] Let's see how this works in practice. The United States exerts pressure on Argentina to make it accept safeguards on its nuclear plants, to ratify the Tlatelolco Treaty, and sign the Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT). How do we exercise our autonomous will? Are we going to give in to such pressures?

[Caputo] The Argentine Government cannot give in to pressure. Suggestions are made by various sectors.

[Guareschi] Even by the USSR?

[Caputo] Yes. In general, the major powers suggest those kind of policies to Third World countries. The Tlatelolco and the NPT are different questions. The NPT creates a system to disarm the unarmed and to weaken the weak. We have said a hundred times that our atomic plan is peaceful, and we cannot sign an international instrument which explicitly sanctions discriminatory treatment.

[Guareschi] That discriminatory attitude is based on the argument that we have political instability, that a future Galtieri might throw atomic bombs right and left.

[Caputo] This region of the world is indeed subject to great instability, and a government's goodwill cannot be accepted by the international community as a guarantee for the future. We have to create conditions for credibility. But we will not attach our signature to a discriminatory instrument.

[Guareschi] We will not sign the NPT. Will we ratify Tlatelolco?

[Caputo] Well, that is a different case. We are studying this question carefully.

[Guareschi] Some sectors have the president's ear, and they believe that the Tlatelolco Treaty should be ratified.

[Caputo] Opposite opinions are good in any debate.

[Guareschi] And what do you propose?

[Caputo] I am listening and evaluating. There are different steps: the ratification is one thing, and the ratification subject to Article 21, providing that the treaty goes into effect only after all countries have signed it, is another thing.

[Guareschi] And Cuba will not ratify it until the United States withdraws from Guantanamo?

[Caputo] Including Cuba or not, which is yet another alternative.

[Guareschi] But will safeguards be given?

[Caputo] Yes. We think it is advisable to agree to an inspection system which will vouch for our peaceful nuclear development. There are several ways of doing this without implying that we approve of a discriminatory instrument.

[Guareschi] Will the Argentine nuclear plan be completely maintained?

[Caputo] No, the nuclear plan will be announced soon.

[Guareschi] Won't it be ratified?

[Caputo] The nuclear plan contemplates continuous development in an area which was spared from the national catastrophe. The government is aware of the need for maintaining this highly technological sector, which has given much satisfaction to all Argentines. We are not going to mortgage this sector.

[Guareschi] Will there be budgetary restrictions?

[Caputo] We are in an environment of strong budgetary restrictions, but the objective is not to abandon the nuclear plan.

[Guareschi] How does Argentina's nuclear capability affect our foreign relations? Favorably or unfavorably?

[Caputo] Simply, Argentina now participates at a level of discussion that is different from the traditional level. In some ways this is favorable; in others, this complicates matters.

[Guareschi] How does it complicate matters?

[Caputo] There is concern on the part of a group of countries which now creates a sort of front in discussions and dialogue; a front which did not exist before.

[Guareschi] Do you believe that if Argentina accepts safeguards to suit the demands of those sectors, it will be in a better position to renegotiate its foreign debt?

[Caputo] Argentina cannot negotiate its sovereign decisions. We are keeping that subject out of negotiations. We are not negotiating this subject.

[Guareschi] That may describe the Argentine will very well. But one does not need much information in order to imagine that in negotiations over our foreign debt, Great Britain, as our creditor, can put pressure on points not directly related to the foreign debt. I am thinking of the Paris Club.

[Caputo] The subjects to be discussed with the Paris Club will be strictly economic. We have made active efforts (I even participated at one time), and friendly governments are committed to take that position into the Paris Club forum. These are important governments which are willing to help us.

[Guareschi] Great Britain can block negotiations despite the good will of countries such as France and the FRG...

[Caputo] Yes, but that attitude will be costly, because there are countries which do not want this block but want to see contributions made to solving Argentina's problems. This is what I expect and some of the Paris Club's most important countries have pledged their support.

[Guareschi] In addition to seeking support, what kind of political approach will make it possible to obtain better terms in the foreign debt renegotiation?

[Caputo] We have told our creditors that there will not be 10 chances to create democracy in Argentina. They have to realize that, should the process of redemocratization fail, not only their loans, but their investments, as well, will be at risk, because what may come after such a failure could be the most violent expression of the struggle between historically opposite sectors, and such a prospect offers no security for anyone.

[Guareschi] The Foreign Ministry has lowered its profile on two questions: human rights...

[Caputo interrupting] It is not so, and you will see. I will deliver a speech in Geneva this coming week. The defense we make abroad will be just as active as the defense we make internally, regardless of ideologies, blocs, and possible cost.

[Guareschi] ...and Central America. Alfonsin has announced that Argentina will not join the Contadora Group.

[Caputo] We evaluated the possibility and decided that we could complicate the functioning of a group of countries which have a common history of negotiations, and which is working reasonably well. But we have expressed our solidarity with the group and made it very clear that it has our political support.

[Guareschi] And still another question: The government no longer gives its opinion on the political processes in neighboring countries. It seems that the government has adopted a more cautious approach.

[Caputo] We have broadened our international agenda, and this may give the impression that some subjects have faded to some extent. It is not so. We have not made any concessions.

FOREIGN MINISTRY DENIES RECEIVING UK RESPONSE

PY250030 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2335 GMT 24 Feb

[Text] Buenos Aires, 24 Feb (NA) -- The Foreign Ministry tonight reported that Great Britain has not yet answered the Argentine counterproposal for resuming diplomatic negotiations over the Malvinas Islands dispute. The Foreign Ministry made this statement after the remarks made by Radical Deputy Federico Storani, who this morning gave assurances that "Argentina and Great Britain will not reach an agreement in the near future."

Storani blamed the impossibility of reaching an agreement for the resumption of negotiations on the adoption of a "limited agenda." He said that the British Government "has changed only the words and order of its proposals; therefore, there will be no agreement in the near future." The remarks by the Radical lawmaker suggested that the British Government had given an official answer to the Argentine Government, but the Foreign Ministry made it clear that no official answer has been received yet.

The British and Argentine Governments began an exchange of notes on 26 January 1984, when a British proposal was sent to the Argentine Government through the Brazilian Embassy in London, which is currently in charge of Argentine interests in Great Britain. The terms of the British proposal were not disclosed and it was possible to know about it only through the statements made by Foreign Minister Dante Caputo in Caracas, Venezuela. However, Storani, who is also the president of the Foreign Relations Committee of the Chamber of Deputies, today said that the Argentine counterproposal "included a call for talks on general matters that should not exclude sovereignty, which is a major issue."

DEPARTURE BAN ON MILITARY STILL IN FORCE

PY171455 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Relay from Government House]

[Text] Interior Ministry Resolution No 137, which was approved at the specific requests of the Chamber of Deputies and the Missing Persons Commission, is still in force. The resolution establishes that before allowing certain people, allegedly involved in cases of human rights violations, to leave the country, the immigration office has to ask the Interior, Defense, and Justice Ministries whether there are any pending suits against them. Interior Under Secretary Rene Galvan confirmed this at the request of journalists who referred to a report heard at Ezeiza airport. According to that report, a judge had lifted the prohibition to leave the country imposed on the following military officers: Guillermo Suarez Mason, Federico Micinucci, Santiago Omar Riveros, Jorge Olivera Rovere, Ramon Camps, Ernesto Trotz, Rodolfo Rualdo, Mohamed Ali Seineldin, and Ciro Ahumada. All these officers, except Ciro Ahumada, are included in a list that was published by the Missing Persons' Commission some time ago.

FORMER AIR FORCE COMMANDER LAMI DOZO DETAINED

PY231611 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1530 GMT 23 Feb 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 23 Feb (TELAM) -- Lieutenant General Basilio Lami Dozo, former commander in chief of the Argentine Air Force, was detained today and placed at the disposal of the Armed Forces Supreme Council after having been questioned about his responsibility during the Malvinas War. Lami Dozo left the Supreme Council at 1227 with his defense attorney, former Planning Secretary Lieutenant General Jose Mired, retired, and is currently driving to the First Air Brigade headquartered in El Palomar, Buenos Aires Province, where he will be held under arrest, according to the information supplied.

MONTONERO LEADER WARNS ALFONSIN IN INTERVIEW

PY240145 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1305 GMT 23 Feb 84

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 23 Feb (NA) -- Montonero leader Mario Firmenich has warned Raul Alfonsin's government that it is marching "in the wrong direction" and that the persecution "of popular militants can lead his government to a crossroads." He also admitted to have fallen into "errors" while leading the Montonero group, but added that "not all the responsibility is ours." Notwithstanding the criticism of the Radical Civic Union government, Firmenich stated that we Montoneros "will support the right measures such as the law on unions which is currently under discussion," and promised "to continue the struggle for their demands." He estimated that 5,000 militant Montoneros "had fallen during the period of repression."

Firmenich, who is under detention in Rio de Janeiro awaiting a decision by the Brazilian courts on the extradition request submitted by the Argentine authorities, has denied that the Montonero group "is finished" by his detention, and promised that "the action will be maintained unchanged in defense of a just cause such as the anti-oligarchical and anti-imperialist cause." The leader of the guerrilla group, founded in the country during the 1970's, was interviewed in his cell at the Rio de Janeiro Federal Prison by the three largest-circulation, general-information weeklies in Argentina, all of which have agreed to present the interview on the front pages of their forthcoming issues.

In interviews granted from his cell to the weeklies GENTE, SIETE DIAS, and LA SEMANA, Firmenich admitted that "among the several errors committed" by the Montoneros "is the mistake in our defense against the aggression of the Triple A." He recalled that in 1973, "unfortunately, we had to confront and defend ourselves against the Triple A, that Triple A that the whole world knows and which unfortunately President Alfonsin forgets in his decrees 157 and 158." He added that within the leadership of the organization, "we always make self-criticism." Regarding the responsibility of the Montoneros for the blood shed in Argentina during the past 15 years, he said that "it is difficult to express in quantity, and besides blood is not quantifiable."

He said he does not know whether Fernando Vaca Narvaja will appear before the Brazilian courts and denied that because of his detention Vaca Narvaja is now "the number one" of the Montoneros, because the organization "has a collective leadership."

ARGENTINE, URUGUAYAN REGIMES SUED FOR ABDUCTION

PY240100 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 23 Feb 84 p 11

[Excerpts] (NA-DYN) -- Uruguayan journalist Enrique Rodriguez Larreta filed a writ here yesterday charging the members of the former military regime's first junta, as well as other Argentine and Uruguayan officers, with his abduction in Buenos Aires in 1976 and the torture to which he was subjected afterwards. Rodriguez said he was captured by a joint Argentine-Uruguayan military group which acted "with the acquiescence of the (Argentine) military junta," and was later taken to Uruguay aboard an Uruguayan Air Force plane, together with several other fellow citizens.

The journalist's charges, which were submitted by Centre for Legal and Social Studies (CELS) lawyers Osvaldo Carsen and Emilio Mignone, were against former Commanders Jorge Videla, Emilio Massera, and Orlando Agosti, of the Argentine Army, Navy, and Air Force, respectively; former Buenos Aires provincial police chief, retired General Ramon Camps; former interior minister, retired General Albano Harguindeguy; retired General Otto Paladino; and Guillermo de la Plaza, the Argentine ambassador to Uruguay at the time of Rodriguez' disappearance. Rodriguez said the joint group which captured him was organized by the intelligence services of both countries to hunt down Uruguayan exiles in Argentina. The lawyers added that they might ask the government to request information from Uruguay to help clear up the issue.

Charges were also filed against Uruguayan officials Hamlet Reyes, president of the council of state, Brigadier Jose Cardozo, joint chief of staff, Colonel Silva Ledesma, chairman of the Supreme Court of Military Justice, General Julio Vadora, commander-in-chief of the Army, Brigadier Dante Paladini, commander-in-chief of the Air Force, Rear Admiral Victor Gonzalez Ibargoyen, commander-in-chief of the Navy, and General Hugo Linares Brum, the interior minister.

The journalist also charged that the United States Government was aware of incidents such as his arrest, citing a speech by a U.S. congressman surnamed Ryan, who allegedly said in Congress on August 4, 1976 that Uruguayan military officers made detentions in Argentina. "This shows that repression in the South was encouraged from the North," Rodriguez said.

FORMER AMBASSADOR'S BODY REPORTEDLY FOUND

PY221315 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 22 Feb 84

[Text] Bones found in the Marcos Paz Cemetery reportedly belong to former Argentine Ambassador to Venezuela Hector Hidalgo Sola. This information was disclosed by a Supreme Court spokesman. The spokesman said that this conclusion was reached after an intensive investigation carried out by medical forensic experts of the La Plata court. The body unearthed in Marcos Paz matches information gathered about the diplomat, who disappeared in 1977. One of the determining factors was that the right shinbone shows a fracture, as Hector Hidalgo Sola had suffered.

1983 GRAIN EXPORTS REPORTED; USSR TOP BUYER

PY220130 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2100 GMT 21 Feb 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 21 Feb (NA) -- The Soviet Union continued as the number one purchaser of Argentine grain during 1983, buying 41.1 percent. Overall exports totaled 23,725,865 tons, including 10,165,020 tons of bread flour (42.8 percent), 6,476,525 tons of maize (27.2 percent), 5,260,437 tons of sorghum (22.1 percent), and 1,419,276 tons of soybeans (5.9 percent).

Soviet purchases during that period totaled 9,754,584 tons, divided as follows: 4,980,662 tons of wheat, 2,022,467 tons of maize, 25,200 tons of oats, 2,090,573 tons of sorghum, and 635,682 tons of soybeans. The second largest purchaser is the PRC with 12.6 percent (2,995,751 tons). The largest purchase is of wheat with 2,946,295 tons. Japan holds third place with 2,468,066 tons (10.4 percent), which consists mainly of sorghum (2,375,150 tons). Iran imported 1,961,565 tons (8.2 percent), principally wheat (1,011,812 tons). Spain and Italy also purchased grain, representing 4.2 and 3.1 percent, respectively, of the total exported.

During the month of December 1983, 1,165,575 tons were exported, and the Soviet Union purchased 31.6 percent of the exports (369,479 tons) that month. Iran purchased an important amount of bread flour and some maize, while Brazil purchased more than 100,000 tons of maize. India purchased a shipment of 101,372 tons of bread flour.

During the period between January and December 1983, the most active ports were Rosario and Bahia Blanca, where 6,813,532 tons and 5,884,151 tons, respectively, were shipped. From Buenos Aires, 3,414,957 tons of grain were shipped and 2,110,945 tons from the port of San Lorenzo. From Villa Constitucion and San Nicolas, 1,438,949 tons and 1,194,203 tons, respectively, were shipped.

BRIEFS

NEW CUBAN, HONDURAN AMBASSADORS -- Buenos Aires, 23 Feb (TELAM) -- The Argentine Government has agreed to the appointment of Fernando Lopez Muino and Roberto Ramon Bustos as the new Cuban and Honduran ambassadors to Argentina, respectively. [Excerpt] [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2215 GMT 23 Feb 84 PY]

ARMED FORCES DENY COUP RUMORS; EVERYTHING NORMAL

PY251000 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2355 GMT 24 Feb 84

[Excerpt] La Paz, 24 Feb -- The Bolivian Armed Forces today denied that they are involved in a new plot to topple the regime of President Siles Zuazo and interrupt the democratic process. Armed Forces Commander in Chief General Alfredo Villaroel, in declarations to the media, has stated that the Armed Forces are devoted to their specific functions, and reiterated the military institution's respect for the nation's Constitution.

The military chief, however, said that he is convinced that the members of the Armed Forces are concerned about the political and economic difficulties now engulfing the country.

Villaroel stressed that "the problems now affecting the country must be solved through dialogue and understanding."

Asked about insistent rumors concerning "suspicious" military mobilization in garrisons in the country's interior, the commander in chief replied that "military reports assert that everything is normal in Bolivia."

General Villaroel disclosed that the High Military Command has sent a note to the Bolivian Labor Federation [COB] demanding that it submit evidence to support its denunciation regarding the possible involvement of high-ranking military officers in an attempt to launch a coup.

ARMY LEADER 'ENJOYS CONFIDENCE' OF GOVERNMENT

PY250150 Paris AFP in Spanish 2257 GMT 24 Feb 84

[Text] La Paz, 24 Feb (AFP) -- Defense Minister Manuel Cardenas Mallo declared here today that Colonel Mario Vargas Salinas, who has been accused by the Bolivian Labor Federation (COB) of being involved in subversive activities, enjoys the confidence of the government.

Vargas Salinas is chief of the Army staff's first department (in charge of Army personnel). He had previously played an important role in 1967 when he took part in the struggle against the guerrilla movement headed by Ernesto Che Guevara. Between 1974 and 1977, he was General Hugo Banzer Suarez' labor minister.

Minister Cardenas Mallo pointed out that the commander in chief of the Armed Forces, in a note addressed to the COB, has requested an explanation for the charges against the Bolivian officer and that the corresponding proof of these charges be supplied.

Later on Vargas Salinas held a lengthy meeting with chief of state Hernan Siles Zuazo to whom, according to the defense minister, he voiced his support for the democratic process.

FOREIGN MINISTER ON RELATIONS WITH U.S.

PY250240 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 24 Feb 84 p 6

[Excerpts] Brasilia -- Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro yesterday stated that it is an error to expect the United States to solve Brazil's problems, or that these problems will end when frictions between the two countries are eliminated. According to the foreign minister, there is a good disposition for dialogue, but relations with the United States, although essential, must be seen within the current situation, "with no precedent as a basis."

Guerreiro explained that the general framework of relations between Brazil and the United States is good, because it is not limited to economic, trade, or even political relations. In his opinion, disagreements in the commercial field will prevail, and even increase to the degree Brazil strengthens its position in the foreign market.

NICARAGUAN PRAISES BRAZIL'S CONTADORA SUPPORT

PA240336 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 23 Feb 84

[Text] Brasilia -- Brazil shares the international community's belief that the United States no longer has an argument or pretext to persist in its policy of aggression against Nicaragua, Edmundo Jarquin, International Reconstruction Fund Minister of Nicaragua, commented today. Jarquin, who made the comment after meeting with Foreign Minister Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro and authorities from Brazil's economic sector, added that the fact that the presidential elections were advanced to November of this year has reduced U.S. maneuvers to cause the Nicaraguan electoral process to become "illegitimate."

The Nicaraguan minister underlined that his country's appreciation of the fact that Brazil, without being directly involved in the negotiations, openly supports the peacekeeping efforts of the Contadora Group. The minister director of the fund obtained up to $10 million in credit through his contacts with the Brazilian economic sector authorities to buy equipment for the transportation and energy sectors.

VICE PRESIDENT COMMENTS ON FOREIGN COMMITMENTS

PY241310 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 24 Feb 84

[Text] The Brazilian letter of intent for the IMF will be drawn up next week. Vice President Aureliano Chaves is already saying that under the present terms, the country will be unable to meet its foreign commitments. Carlos Rodriguez is now on the line from Brasilia.

[Begin Rodriguez regarding] Vice President Aureliano Chaves says that under the present terms, Brazil will be unable to meet its foreign commitments. He says that, although Brazil must meet its commitments, it cannot commit its production capacity to settle its foreign debt. Chaves believes that recession is not the way to resolve the economic crisis. He added that the IMF cannot deal with Brazil the way it is dealing with other countries, without taking into account its pecularities.

The IMF mission, which has been staying in Brasilia for more than 2 weeks and is undertaking a painstaking review of the Brazilian economic situation, met again today with experts of the government economic team. Goals are being outlined for the new letter of intent that the Brazilian Government will submit to the IMF. This task must be completed next week, when the IMF mission will then return to the United States. [end recording]

CHAVES 'HINTING' AT CREATING NEW PARTY

PY251835 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes in Portuguese 1600 GMT 25 Feb 84

[Text] Vice President Aureliano Chaves, who has endorsed the indirect ballot system -- or is endorsing the direct ballot system but is a candidate under the indirect ballot system -- is already hinting at the creation of a new political party. Chaves says that the idea of the creation of a new political party is a movement which runs parallel to his candidacy. He refrained, however, from revealing whether this new party would back up his hopes for the presidency. Chaves just said that the existing parties lack consistency. He gave as an example the merger between the PT [Workers Party] and the PMDR [Brazilian Democratic Movement Party].

Chaves met with Minister Leitao de Abreu yesterday, but the discussions centered on the field of [word indistinct] matters.

300,000 ATTENDED DIRECT ELECTIONS RALLY

PY251438 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 25 Feb 84

[Excerpts] Minas Gerais Governor Tancredo Neves is euphoric. He said that last night's rally in Belo Horizopte for a direct ballot system surpassed all expectations. We expected 100,000 people, but 300,000 showed up, Neves said. The crowd packed the Rio Branco Square, where numerous loudspeakers were placed. Women were also called upon to participate. Everything went off smoothly. Police went about their work routinely, and there were no serious medical service calls. Only one thing did irk Neves, and this was the display of communist banners in front of the (?palace). Neves could not believe his eyes and grumbled: This is unfortunate.

Seven governors, dozens of congressmen, [word indistinct], and artists attended the rally.

Governor Leonel Brizola said that this was the largest political rally ever seen in Brazil.

Governor Franco Montoro said that he had no doubts regarding the success of the campaign for a direct ballot system.

[Begin recording] [Montoro] [In progress] ... the great cause for a direct ballot system. The Brazilian people want to elect their president and they will do so.

[Unidentified reporter] Governor, the [word indistinct] issue in congress, do you believe that this popular mobilization will be enough to achieve that (?phenomenon)?

[Montoro] I am certain that the majority in congress will now give in to these demonstrators whom they owe their [word indistinct] and by the fact more than 90 percent of the (?presidential hopefuls) favor the direct ballot system. [end recording]

SERIOUS INCIDENTS DURING PINOCHET TOUR IN SOUTH

PY251507 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1303 GMT 25 Feb 84

[Text] Punta Arenas, Chile, 25 Feb (EFE) -- Two persons were seriously injured and 11 were detained in serious incidents last night and early this morning in Punta Arenas, the capital of a region in southern Chile, after a mass in commemoration of the second anniversary of the murder of union leader Tucapel Jimenez. At the same time that President Augusto Pinochet is touring the southern part of the country, hundreds of people staged a demonstration when they left the religious service, held in a church in downtown Punta Arenas. The incidents, in which a Carabineros sergeant and a civilian were seriously injured, took place in front of the cathedral at the intersection of Bulnes Avenue and Bories Street, the busiest part of the city.

According to Carabineros reports, those detained will be put at the disposal of the courts on charges of disorderly conduct and damage to municipal property. The same charges will be made against an unidentified car driver who injured one of the demonstrators.

Meanwhile, General Augusto Pinochet is traveling from Punta Arenas to the town of Porvenir, from where he will return to the capital of the 12th Region this afternoon. The president will return to Santiago on Wednesday.

Residents Protest

PY251850 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1725 GMT 25 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Punta Arenas, 25 Feb (EFE) -- A demonstration to protest the visit paid to Punta Arenas by President Augusto Pinochet was held in the city last night and early this morning. Punta Arenas is located in the southernmost part of the country. Hundreds of people walked along streets in downtown Punta Arenas shouting slogans against the government. Violent incidents occurred after a car charged at the demonstrators and injured one of them seriously.

Police personnel, who arrested approximately 10 people, were unable to protect the official signs to welcome Pinochet, many of which were destroyed by the demonstrators. An arch of triumph erected in Pinochet's honor was pulled down and used as a barricade in a street in downtown Punta Arenas.

'Hundreds' Boo

PY262010 Paris AFP in Spanish 1712 GMT 26 Feb 84

[Text] Punta Arenas, Chile, 26 Feb (AFP) -- The Chilean police today arrested approximately 10 persons who were participating in a demonstration against President Augusto Pinochet when he arrived to preside over a civic ceremony in Punta Arenas, 2,500 km south of Santiago. The situation developed when the chief executive, who on Friday launched a tour of the southern regions, arrived in Plaza Munoz Gamero in Punta Arenas to preside over a flag-raising ceremony.

As Pinochet was getting out of his car in front of Punta Arenas cathedral, hundreds of persons booed him and shouted antigovernment slogans. "Murderers, murderers," and "It is going to end, it is going to end, the military dictatorship is going to end," were some of the slogans shouted from one of the sides of the main square of Punta Arenas.

Police agents and members of the security services immediately moved to control the situation and arrested some 10 persons while the rest sought refuge in the cathedral as thousands of antigovernment leaflets were being strewn about. These events, which took place at noon today, lasted for some 20 minutes after the ceremony had ended. Among those arrested are Carlos Mladinic, regional president of the Christian Democratic Party, and Jose Ruiz di Giorgio, national president of the Oil Workers Union.

OFFICIAL: SWEDEN INTERFERES IN DOMESTIC AFFAIRS

PY241344 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 24 Feb 84

[Excerpts] Mario Barros, the Foreign Ministry general director, has stated that the aid that the Swedish Government is giving to some opposition parties is interference in Chilean domestic affairs. Mario Barros made this statement yesterday at the end of a meeting he held with Swedish Charge d'Affaires Lars Schonander, who was summoned to the Foreign Ministry to confirm if the Swedish Government is indeed sending monetary aid to Chilean opposition sectors.

Barros said that during the meeting, the Swedish diplomat confirmed that, during a speech that the Swedish prime minister delivered before the Riksdag, he specified the amount of aid that the Swedish Government is providing the Chilean opposition. According to the Swedish Government, it provides a total of $1.2 million for humanitarian reasons.

Later, Barros informed Foreign Minister Jaime del Valle, who yesterday resumed his duties after a vacation, about the matters discussed at the meeting.

DENIAL OF SAFE-CONDUCTS DISRESPECTFUL TO POPE

PY242045 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1615 GMT 24 Feb 84

[Text] Traditions precede the laws, and therefore courtesy toward the Holy See decreases each day and week that passes. This statement was made by Apostolic Nuncio Msgr Angelo Sodano, who held a 1-hour meeting with Foreign Minister Del Valle, who had called him to his office. The nuncio stated that the minister briefed him on the government's position regarding the four persons who sought refuge in his diplomatic mission. Msgr Sodano stated that he reiterated the request for safe-conducts because he has made the request understanding what he can and should do.

[Begin Sodano recording] Safe-conducts are legal documents that have been used for centuries to solve delicate problems. Safe-conducts have always been granted in Chile in similar cases by previous governments and by the current government for its 10 and 1/2 years in office. There have been many cases of safe-conducts granted to persons who have been accused, tried, and sentenced. Safe-conducts have always been granted to persons with pending warrants of arrest by the military court, as in this case. Therefore, the Holy See trusts in the government's courtesy. [end recording]

He added that if the Chilean Government has granted safe-conducts to other governments and to other chiefs of state, and has made use of this courtesy, the Holy See feels that the government, when possible, and when it finds appropriate, will grant these safe-conducts. This has nothing to do with treaties, it has to do with international courtesy, Msgr Sodano stated.

[Begin Sodano recording] International traditions precede the laws. Therefore, courtesy to the Holy See decreases as the days and weeks pass. First, it would be a small breach of courtesy, then it would be a greater breach of courtesy, and finally a tremendous lack of courtesy. This is the Holy See's position. We ask for these safe-conducts because they have been granted in similar cases. If they have been granted, then it is a sign that these safe-conducts can be given. [end recording]

The apostolic nuncio also referred to the uncourteous terms with which the holy father has been treated.

[Begin Sodano recording] Some persons have referred to the holy father in disrespectful terms. Surely we cannot permit this. Until yesterday the pope has been the august mediator, Christ's vicar on earth, the top world authority, and he is also a church member who gives an opinion to us. The pope is always our father, our master, our guide who has always guided us throughout our life... [end recording]

I take this opportunity to forward from La Moneda Palace an affectionate greeting to the father of all, and to voice to him assurances that the Chilean Catholic community and men of goodwill hold him in great esteem and respect, Msgr Sodano stated.

SOCIALIST LEADER SEEKS ASYLUM IN ARGENTINA

PY241515 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1212 GMT 24 Feb 84

[Text] Mendoza, 24 Feb (DYN) -- Armando Romero Baez, a leader of the Chilean Socialist Party, has asked Mendoza Province authorities for political asylum in Argentina through the Swedish Embassy in Mendoza, diplomatic sources said today. Romero Baez arrived in Mendoza on Monday afternoon by bus with his girlfriend Monica Gomez.

In statements made to Radio de Cuyo, Romero Baez stated that "a massive, systematic repression is underway in his country in an attempt to behead the mass movements seeking to halt the nationwide stoppage that is scheduled for March and May." During his talk with the press, Romero Baez stated that the escalation of the repression in Chile "began with the detention of the president of the People's Democratic Movement (MDP) and the Chilean Socialist Party, Manuel Almeyda, which forced us, several young leaders, to leave the country."

In response to a question, Romero Baez said that he was in charge of the so-called "Front of South Santiago Masses." He recalled that Almeyda had been imprisoned "before, in the dungeons of the CNI (National Information Center) in Chile, for 20 days, and then he was imprisoned in Valparaiso." Almeyda then led the left-wing movement and this week was detained, charged with violating the state security law, for calling for the overthrow of the military regime led by General Augusto Pinochet Ugarte since 1973. Referring to Almeyda, Romero Baez said "the president of the Chilean Socialist Party is an elderly man with health problems and is being held in inhuman conditions in Santiago's penitentiary."

It was learned in Mendoza that Rafael Maroto, CODEPO (Committee for the Defense of the People's Rights) secretary general, views his personal safety as being in jeopardy.

Romero Baez concluded by telling the journalists that he "urgently" has to travel to Buenos Aires to get in touch with the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, who has an office in downtown Buenos Aires on the corner of Suipacha and Diagonal Norte streets.

TEXT OF DRAFT OF POLITICAL PARTIES BILL

PY220305 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 2 Feb 84 p C-2

[Text] Miguel Schweitzer Speisky, president of the Council of State, last Tuesday delivered to Interior Minister Sergio Onofre Jarpa the draft bill on the constitutional law of political parties which was drafted by a subcommission headed by legal expert Francisco Bulnes Sanfuentes. The document is 77 pages long and describes the basic guidelines for the various trends of opinion in the country. Text of the draft bill follows:

Objectives and Activities of Political Parties

Article 1. Political parties are associations that citizens join of their own will. They are legally recognized organizations whose objective is to contribute, under the terms of the present law, to the functioning of the constitutional democratic regime.

Article 2. Political parties may:

a) Create and guide currents of opinion to promote the welfare of the people. In this regard, they may put forth their declaration of principles, policies, and program of government for public consideration. They may also put forth, before the public and the goverment, their initiatives and criteria for the public sector with a view to solving national or regional problems;

b) Participate in elections and plebiscites in keeping with the terms of the constitutional organic law on the electoral system;

c) Cooperate with the implementation of the tasks assigned to their senators and deputies in the national Congress;

d) Contribute to preparing citizens capable of discharging public responsibilities; and

e) Undertake any other action that should be supplementary to the activities listed under a) to d), provided they are not forbidden by law.

The terms of this article prevent neither citizens who are not members of a political party nor other legally recognized organizations from engaging in the activities hereby described in keeping with constitutional principles, provided this does not imply the existence of a political party that should operate illegally.

Article 3. The declaration of principles of political parties shall clearly state that they shall respect the existing constitutional order.

Establishment of Political Parties

Article 4. The director of the Electoral Service shall be in charge of granting legal recognition to political parties in keeping with the terms of the following articles.

Article 5. To establish a party, the founders of the party, who must be citizens and free from any ban on their right to vote, shall sign an affidavit before a notary public. The affidavit shall include the following:

a) Name and age of each of the founders;

b) Statement of their desire to establish a political party;

c) Name of the party and initials that it shall use;

d) Declaration of principles of the party;

e) Statutes of the party; and

f) Name of the members of the provisional executive council, which shall include at least a president, two vice presidents, a secretary general, a general treasurer, an under secretary, and a deputy treasurer. The affidavit shall also indicate how those persons shall be replaced in case of death or resignation, or in case of the inability to discharge duties before the new party is granted recognition.

Simultaneously with the signing of the affidavit, a copy of the facsimile of the symbol and emblem of the party shall be registered in an official document.

The notary public shall submit a certified copy of the affidavit and of the official document to the director of the Electoral Service not later than three days after they were issued.

Article 6. Once the affidavit has been signed, it shall be required that 20,000 citizens join the new party. This figure will be readjusted from 1990 on, each time a general census is carried out and approved. This readjustment will be proportional to the decrease or increase in the number of Chileans more than 18 years old with respect to the previous census.

In this case, citizens shall join the party by signing a statement before a notary public or an official of the registry office in the absence of a notary public. The statements may be individual or collective, and shall include the name, surname, residence, age, and identification card number of each person. The new party members shall also give testimony before the notary public or the official of the registry office of the fact that they are citizens and a written statement attesting to their testimony shall be entered into the record.

Article 7. Once the requirements set by Articles 5 and 6 are complied with, an application shall be submitted to the director of the Electoral Service requesting that the new party be formally recognized. The application shall be signed before a notary public by the president and the secretary general of the new party, who shall establish a common address to this effect.

Two documents shall be attached to the application: the original, or a photocopy certified by a notary public, of the statements referred to in Article 6; and an alphabetical list of the names of the persons who signed such statements. The list shall include only name, surname, and residence of each person.

After the documents described in this article have been submitted to the director, the party will be considered to be in process of formation.

Article 8. If the requirements set in Article 6 are not complied with within 180 days after the signing of the affidavit referred to in Article 5, said affidavit shall be considered void.

Article 9. Citizens who are members of other parties that have already been recognized or that are in the process of formation shall not be eligible to sign the affidavit or the statements referred to in Article 6.

Article 10. The name and the emblem of the party shall not have similarities, either graphical or phonetical, that could cause confusion with those of parties which have already been recognized or which are in the process of formation.

The following items shall not be accepted as symbols or emblems of parties:

a) The national coat of arms and the national flag;

b) Pictures or reproductions of individuals;

c) Reproductions that are immoral, offensive, or contrary to public order; and

d) Symbols, words, phrases, or expressions, both foreign and domestic, which are well known to stand for parties, groups, movements, or ideologies that are contrary to the Constitution.

Article 11. Within 5 working days following the presentation of the application and the documents referred to in article 7, the director of the Electoral Service shall instruct the OFFICIAL GAZETTE to publish the application and the name of the party in the process of formation, the date on which the affidavit for the establishment of the party was signed, and the notary public's office where the affidavit was signed.

Any party that has already been recognized or that is in the process of formation shall be entitled to ask the director for a certified photocopy of the list referred to in the second paragraph of Article 7, which shall be handed over within the 3 following working days at the expense of the party. Any citizen shall be entitled to review the application and the documents attached to it, in keeping with the rules that shall be established by the director.

Article 12. Each one of the parties, either recognized or in process of formation, may oppose the application for recognition. They shall do so in writing and shall mention the reasons for their opposition. The document shall be signed by the president of the party that opposes the application for recognition and shall be submitted to the director of the Electoral Service not later than 30 days after the publication referred to in the first paragraph of Article 11. The opposing party shall be considered to be a party in the case. The director will inform the president of the party in the process of formation, through a registered letter, of the opposition to the formation of his party.

Article 13. After the deadline established in Article 12 has expired and regardless of the fact that other parties have or have not opposed the formation of the new party, the director shall issue a resolution within the following 15 working days, either granting or rejecting the application and providing the reasons for his decision. If, in the event there are opposing parties, the director feels that it is necessary to establish an evidence discovery period, said period shall not last more than 15 working days. The deadline for issuing a resolution on the application will be extended for as many days as this period lasts.

In the resolution referred to in the first paragraph of this Article, the director shall order that the text of said resolution be published by the OFFICIAL GAZETTE.

Article 14. The application shall be rejected only if the respective requirements have not been complied with or if the conditions set forth in Articles 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, and 24 have not been met, without precluding what Article 17 sets forth.

Article 15. The applicants, as well as recognized parties or those that are in the process of formation which have opposed the application in keeping with the terms of this law, may appeal the resolution referred to in Article 13 before the Supervisory Electoral Court. They shall be represented by their presidents. The resolution shall be appealed in writing before the director within 5 working days following the publication referred to in the second paragraph of Article 13. The corresponding procedure will be carried out in keeping with the terms of Article 19.

Article 16. If the director has granted the application, and if his resolution has not been appealed, or if the Supervisory Electoral Court has denied any appeals, the director shall immediately register the party in the Registry of Political Parties, which shall be his responsibility.

If the director has rejected the application, and if his resolution was not appealed, or if the appeals have been denied by the court, the director shall forthwith order that all existing documents be filed.

Article 17. If the Constitutional Court declares that the party in the process of formation is unconstitutional, the director of the Electoral Service shall issue a final resolution rejecting the application for the establishment of the party.

Article 18. The party in the process of formation whose application has been rejected through a final resolution may correct the deficiencies that caused its application to fail, provided this procedure does not involve changes in its declaration of principles; it shall also be entitled to submit a new application based on the documents that have already been submitted and on others, provided that the deficiencies have been corrected. The new application shall be submitted not later than 2 months after the above mentioned resolution was issued, and it shall be dealt with in keeping with the terms of Articles 11 to 17. If this application is rejected, the applicants shall no longer be entitled to exercise the right set forth in this paragraph.

To correct the deficiencies, the provisional executive board of the party in the process of formation shall be entitled to introduce changes in the name, emblem, and statutes of the party and to increase the number of members until, in the opinion of the director, the corresponding legal requirement has been met.

Article 19. The Supervisory Electoral Court shall establish, through its own resolutions, the procedural rules to be observed when appealing decisions. The court may also issue other rules to supplement the regulations dealing with the steps to be taken before the director of the Electoral Service.

Article 20. Parties shall be entitled to exercise their electoral rights only if they were registered at the Registry of Political Parties at least 3 months in advance of the respective elections.

Procedure To Join a Party

Article 21. All citizens whose right to vote has not been banned may join a party, in keeping with Article 16 of the Constitution.

No citizen shall be entitled to join more than one party at the same time. To join a party, a citizen shall relinquish his previous membership with another party.

Any party member may resign his membership at any time without mentioning the reasons for his decision. The sole presentation of his resignation to the president of the party or the director of the Electoral Service shall result in the cancellation of his membership with the party.

Admission as a party member shall be decided by the organ that the statutes will indicate, and it shall not be necessary to explain the reasons for the rejection of an application.

Article 22. Political parties shall keep a list of all their members. They shall also provide a copy of the list to the director of the Electoral Service, who shall have it published, and they shall report new affiliations, resignations, and expulsions.

This requirement shall be complied with according to existing regulations, without precluding the power that the director shall have to ask for the list at any time.

Internal Organization and Representation of Parties

Article 23. The organization and functioning of political parties shall be governed by their statutes, which shall conform to the terms of this article. The constitutional mandate that party statutes shall guarantee internal democracy shall thus be considered to have been complied with.

1) All party members shall be entitled to give their opinions on changes in the declaration of principles and in the statutes, and on the dissolution of the party and merger with other parties. The only exception being those who are not up-to-date with the payment of the dues established by the statutes and those whose rights as party members have been suspended by the Higher Tribunal.

The president of the party, at the request of the National Council, of the Political Commission, or of at least 1/5 of the total number of party members, shall summon the party to adopt a position regarding the matters referred to in the previous paragraph. The decision by the party shall deal exclusively with the matters that are the object of the summons.

The party shall adopt a position by means of votes that shall be held in the various towns of the country, in the presence of a Public Registry official in the towns where there are no public notaries, or in the presence of a public notary to be appointed by the president of the party in the towns where there are public notaries. The vote may also take place in the presence of another public official appointed by the director of the Electoral Service at the request of the president of the party. The official or public notary shall issue an act that will report the number of votes in favor or against a proposal and the number of blank votes, and shall send by means of a registered letter a copy of the act to the president of the party and another copy to the director of the Electoral Service.

The Higher Tribunal shall approve the procedure followed by the party in connection with the summons described in this clause, shall recount the votes on the basis of the acts referred to in the previous paragraph, shall adjudicate any claims that may be raised by party members, and shall proclaim the final results, declaring that the proposals that have won an absolute majority have been approved. Nevertheless, if the vote took place at the request of at least 1/5 of the total number of party members, the proposal will need the support of votes which, in addition to being the absolute majority of the number of votes that were cast, shall represent no less than 2/5 of the total number of party members.

The statutes shall include regulations to guarantee that the request for a summons shall be properly submitted, that the summons shall be carried out properly, that the summons shall be advertised properly, and that the right of each party member to cast his vote in the town in which he is residing shall be respected. The statutes shall establish the deadline for issuing the summons and holding the vote. If the summons involves simultaneous votes on several issues, each one will be voted on individually. Contradictory proposals shall not be voted on simultaneously.

Once a request for a summons has been submitted, and while the corresponding vote is underway, no party official shall be entitled to suspend or expel party members.

2) Each party shall have a National Council entitled at least to: a) designate and remove the president and vice presidents of the party, the other members of the Political Commission, and, by a 2/3 majority, the members of the Higher Tribunal; b) listen to the account that the president shall give during each meeting held by the Council, give opinions on the issues addressed by the president and formulate recommendations to the president and the Political Commission on any aspect of the life of the party; c) approve the balance [balance]; d) approve or reject, at the request of the Political Commission, the decision of the party to join federations, confederations, or electoral pacts; e) approve or reject, at the request of the Political Commission, the proclamation of candidates to the presidency of the republic; f) ask the party president to summon party members to adopt a position on specific matters in keeping with clause 1 of this article; and, g) approve or reject the readmission of party members who were expelled by the Higher Tribunal.

The National Council shall be made up of the members of the Political Commission, the party senators and deputies, other persons who are entitled to be members because of their rank, other nonelected members who will be appointed in keeping with the terms of the statutes, and of elected members. The number of elected members shall not be smaller than twice the number of members listed under the previous categories. Elected members shall be elected by party organizations at regional, provincial, and town levels. Up to 25 percent of the number of elected members may be elected by party leadership bodies.

The National Council shall meet whenever summoned by the party president, the Political Commission, or the Higher Tribunal, and the president shall bear the responsibility of sponsoring at least one meeting by the National Council every calendar year. The council shall be presided over by the party president, and the party secretary general shall be its secretary. His duties will be those of a public notary.

3) Each party shall assemble a political commission that shall be entitled to the attributions described in this article and in the statutes. The commission shall also assume the political leadership of the party, in keeping with the declaration of principles.

The commission shall be made up of the party president, who will preside over it, the vice presidents, and other members who shall be elected by the National Council for terms that shall not exceed 2 years and who may be removed by the council. The number of members who shall be elected by the National Council shall be established by the statutes.

No more than 1/3 of the number of members of the Political Commission, without taking into account the president and the vice presidents, may be deputies and senators.

4) Each party shall have an executive board made up of the president, the vice president, who may be two or more, the secretary general, and the general treasurer. If any of these two latter officials are absent, they shall be replaced by the under secretary or the deputy treasurer or, if necessary, by both.

In addition to the powers conferred upon him by this law, the party president shall also assume the political leadership of the party in agreement with the political commission, and shall be in charge of the internal management of the party.

The other members of the executive board shall advise the president and shall cooperate with him in discharging his duties. The vice presidents, in the order established by the statutes, shall replace the president.

5) Each party shall have a Higher Tribunal which shall exercise the powers conferred upon it by this law. In addition, it shall be entitled at least to: a) interpret the statutes for general and specific cases; b) issue or approve regulations for the application of the statutes, and interpret said regulations; c) adjudicate matters dealing with problems of jurisdiction arising among party leaders and leadership organs; d) adjudicate the complaints against action by party leaders or leadership organs deemed to be contrary to the declaration of principles or statutes, and adopt the necessary measures to correct such actions and their consequences; and, e) adjudicate the charges leveled against party leaders or members in connection with actions involving disregard of discipline, the declaration of principles, the statutes, or in connection with actions that may jeopardize the interests and prestige of the party. It shall also be entitled to take disciplinary action as established by the statutes. Only the Higher Tribunal shall be entitled to expel a member.

The Higher Tribunal shall be made up of five full members and two alternate members who shall be elected by the National Council for periods that shall not exceed 4 years. The National Council shall be entitled to remove Higher Tribunal members. No more than one full member and one alternate member may be members of Congress. Party members shall be eligible as Higher Tribunal members if they have at least 10 years of uninterrupted membership with the party. For multiparty mergers, membership shall be considered to begin at the time of affiliation with any of the member parties. Party members who have participated in the formation of a party shall also be eligible as Higher Tribunal members.

The Higher Tribunal shall designate two of its full members as president and vice president, respectively. It shall also designate a secretary, who shall be a lawyer and whose actions shall be that of a notary public. The Higher Tribunal shall operate in keeping with the regulations and amendments that it will issue.

6) The statutes shall establish rules for the designation or the sponsoring of candidates for deputy and senator.

The statutes may authorize the party and the Political Commission to formulate, in special cases, recommendations to the deputies and senators on their performance in Congress and on the votes that they shall cast in congressional plenary sessions, in the Chamber of Deputies, or in the Senate.

The statutes may also authorize the Political Commission, exclusively, to order the deputies and senators to cast a specific vote, but only if a contrary vote will involve an open violation of the declaration of principles or serious or repeated disregard for the party political line. At the request of the Political Commission, the Higher Tribunal shall confirm that these orders were complied with. The Higher Tribunal may take any disciplinary action foreseen by the statutes, including expulsion.

The Higher Tribunal shall have the same power in case the Political Commission reports that a lawmaker has neglected or abandoned his duties.

No recommendations shall be formulated nor orders given in case senators or deputies must act as members of a jury.

Article 24. The party president shall be the representative of the party for judicial and nonjudicial matters.

Financing of Parties

Article 25. The political party income shall be constituted by the contributions from its members, donations, assets bequeathed to it, and dividends from its own assets.

Article 26. Parties shall not be allowed to receive funds or credit from foreigners or foreign or international organizations of any nature, except for those coming from foreigners who have had their domicile in Chile for at least the previous 5 years. Parties also shall not be allowed to receive funds or credit from professional associations, business organizations, unions, or union federations or confederations.

Article 27. Political parties shall keep a book in which disbursements and incomes are recorded, an inventory book, and a balance sheet book. They shall also keep supporting documents.

The director of the Electoral Service shall consult with the Supervisory Electoral Court and issue general and uniform bookkeeping instructions.

The director shall review the books and the supporting documents at least once every calendar year and shall keep a copy of the report issued after each review. The public shall have access to this report in keeping with the regulations that the director shall issue.

Article 28. Political parties shall issue a balance sheet each calendar year and shall send a copy to the director of the Electoral Service. If he considers that it is necessary to clarify some points of the balance, he shall ask the party for the information, which shall be provided within the period established by the director.

The director may reject the balance sheet if it is not in agreement with the records entered in the books or if it has gross errors or ommissions. If there is no objection, or if eventual objections are met, the director shall order that the balance be published in the OFFICIAL GAZETTE.

The director's resolution rejecting a balance sheet may be appealed before the Supervisory Electoral Court, whose decision cannot be appealed.

Article 29. The terms of Articles 25 to 28 shall not rule out direct or indirect state funding, which may be provided for in a constitutional organic law on a public electoral system, for a nationwide campaign of the candidates for president of the nation and for seats in the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate.

Article 30. The documents and procedures related to the formation of a party which are referred to in this law, including the documents described in Articles 5, 6, and 7 and the documents issued in connection with amendments of the declaration of principles and statutes, shall be exempted from any tax or contribution of any nature.

The contributions paid by party members, the donations, and the assets bequeathed to parties shall also be exempted from any tax or contribution of any nature.

The buildings in which parties have their headquarters and which are owned by parties shall be exempt from all federal and municipal taxes of any nature, provided said buildings are used exclusively for party activities. If an area or areas of the building are used for party activities, and if the rest of the building is used for other activities, the party may ask that the area or areas used for party activities be exempt from taxes and contributions.

Merger, Federation, and Confederation of Parties

Article 31. Each political party shall be able to merge with another or with other parties in keeping with the terms of the following articles.

Article 32. The National Councils of each of the parties that will merge shall previously approve the merger and the declaration of principles of the new party. If the National Council gives its approval, the party president shall summon party members to give their opinion in keeping with the procedure described in clause 1 of Article 23.

If party members agree to the merger and to the declaration of principles, the Political Commission of each party shall be empowered to negotiate with the other parties the conditions of the merger, including the statutes of the new party. However, the merger will not come into force until it is ratified by the National Council of each party.

If the proposed merger involves more than two parties, and if not all of them approve, those parties that have agreed to merge may do so, provided this is approved by the respective National Councils.

Article 33. Once the merger has been agreed upon in keeping with the terms of Article 32, the presidents of the merging parties shall jointly submit a note to the director of the Electoral Service requesting that the party resulting from the merger be recognized and that the registration of the merging parties, as individual parties, be canceled.

The documents proving that the requirements set forth in Article 32 have been met shall be attached to the note.

Article 34. Within 15 working days of the presentation of the note referred to in Article 33, the director shall issue a resolution either accepting or rejecting the request. The resolution shall include the reasons for the director's decision.

The request shall be rejected only in case of failure to comply with the terms of Articles 3, 10, 23, and 33.

If the director denies the request, the presidents of the parties who submitted it may appeal the director's decision before the Supervisory Electoral Court within 10 working days after they were informed of the decision. If the court grants the appeal, the director shall immediately register the new party in the Registry of Political Parties and shall cancel the registrations of the merging parties. If the court denies the appeal, the director shall file the case folder.

The procedure involving the presentation of appeals shall conform to the terms of Article 19.

Article 35. The fact that the party resulting from this merger has been inscribed in the aforementioned registry will grant it legal status and for all legal purposes will be considered the inheritor of the merged parties' rights and duties. All citizens who on the day of inscription belonged to any of the merged parties will be considered as members of the new party.

Article 36. Two or more political parties may form a federation and two or more federations may form a confederation.

The federations and confederations may only be agreed on by the respective Political Commissions with the approval of the respective National Councils. Their goals, organization, and functioning will be those established in the corresponding agreement; they will be dissolved in keeping with what is established in the corresponding agreement, they will enjoy the rights granted to them by the constitutional organic law regarding the public electoral system and will not enjoy their own legal status.

The federations and confederations will be registered at the joint request of the respective party presidents in the Registry of Political Parties, with an additional list of all the member parties. The request will be submitted in writing and should be accompanied by documents authorizing the establishment of federations or confederations in keeping with the terms of this article and the statutes of the member parties.

The director of the Electoral Service may only deny the request for inscription if the terms of the statutes or of this law are not met. This denial may be appealed in keeping with paragraphs 3 and 4 of Article 34.

Dissolution of the Parties

Article 37. The political parties shall only dissolve:

1. by agreement of its members at the proposal of the National Council in keeping with Article 23;

2. for not having obtained a seat in the Chamber of Deputies;

3. for not having obtained 5 percent of the total valid votes cast for electing deputies;

4. for merging with another party in keeping with Article 35; and

5. by decision of the Constitutional Court to declare the political party unconstitutional in keeping with Articles 8 and 22, section 7 of the National Constitution.

Article 38. The political party's dissolution will take place with the cancellation of its respective inscription in the Registry of Political Parties, which will be done by the director of the Electoral Service after notifying the president of the affected political party.

In the case of clauses 2 and 3 of Article 37, the cancellation can only be carried out 6 months after the respective election. During this period the affected party may merge with another party so long as the merging parties have obtained 5 percent of the votes and hold a seat in the Chamber of Deputies.

The director's decision to cancel an inscription may be appealed before the Supervisory Court within the following 15 working days of the notification.

Article 39. Once the Constitutional Court has decided that a political party is unconstitutional, the party will be considered dissolved for all legal purposes as soon as the decision is published in the OFFICIAL GAZETTE, and the director of the Electoral Service will proceed to cancel the respective inscription.

Article 40. Once the political party has been dissolved, its assets will be distributed according to the provisions made by its statutes; and should there be no provisions for this, they will become government property. However, in the case of Clause 5 of Article 37, these assets will necessarily become government property.

Draft Termed 'Antidemocratic'

PY240155 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 20 Feb 84 p C 3

[Excerpt] Jorge Mario Quinzio, a member of the Group for Constitutional Studies, commonly known as the "Group of 24," today voiced his criticism of the State Council's draft bill of statutes on political parties which, "as we can see, is part of the government's game to maintain the political itinerary established by the 1980 Constitution." On Thursday, Quinzio gave the highest leaders of the Democratic Alliance a full report on the draft bill. He made a comparative analysis with that made by the Group of 24.

Quinzio pointed [illegible] that "in the first place we flatly reject the bill but, nevertheless, will state our viewpoints. Through this bill the government intends to make the opposition, especially the Democratic Alliance, accept the 1980 Constitution and the current system which rules us and which we consider antidemocratic."

TEMPORARY RETURN OF FORMER OFFICIALS AUTHORIZED

Ex-Minister Bittar

PY171615 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0337 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Text] Santiago, 16 Feb (EFE) -- The government today authorized the temporary return to the country of Sergio Bittar, who served as mines minister during the Popular Unity government. On making the announcement, Interior Under Secretary Luis Simon Figueroa did not give any specifics of Bittar's trip. Bittar has been living in exile for 10 years.

Ex-Senator Sule

PY220300 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0033 GMT 22 Feb 84

[Text] Santiago, 21 Feb (EFE) -- The Chilean Government today authorized the temporary return of former Senator Anselmo Sule, a high-ranking leader of the National Party. Sule, who has lived in Mexico for more than 10 years since he went into exile, received a permit to enter the country and stay for 8 days to attend the funeral of his sister Milka Sule.

Exiled labor leader Hector Cuevas made a stopover at the Santiago International Airport today on a flight from Italy to Buenos Aires. Expelled on 3 December 1982, Cuevas has not been allowed to return to Chile. During the stopover, he was allowed to talk with his wife and some fellow union members at the airport's debarkation room.

BRIEFS

AMBASSADOR TO CANADA ACCEPTED -- The Canadian Government has agreed to the designation of Alberto Besa Allen as the Chilean ambassador plenipotentiary to Canada. Besa Allen replaces Mario Silva, who will arrive in Chile in mid-March to assume the post of protocol director. [Excerpt] [Santiago LA TERCERA DE LA HORA in Spanish 24 Jan 84 p 12 PY]

FOREIGN MINISTER COMMENTS ON C.A. ISSUES

PA241643 Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 22 Feb 84

[Text] Foreign Minister Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo has made an important statement to the press in Ottawa, Canada, where he is on an official visit. Lloreda discussed the situation in Central America, the position of the Contadora Group, and that of the U.S. Kissinger commission, which has also examined and assessed the situation there.

Asked if the Kissinger commission's objectives complement those of the Contadora Group, Lloreda Caicedo said: Agreement exists on several objectives, including the efforts to restore representative democracy in Central America; the effort to achieve economic and social development in the area's countries; and the search for peace through negotiation and understanding among the countries and forces involved in the conflict in Central America. These shared objectives permit some coordination between the Contadora Group's policies and efforts and U.S. policy. However, there are probably some differences, too, because the United States does not reject a military solution and sends military aid to those countries that maintain the closest ties with it. Also, the United States has said that it has not ruled out the possibility of military intervention.

There are differences with what we in the Contadora Group have been proposing, because our goal is to stop all foreign intervention in Central America. In other words, the great world powers must not use the Central American region to resolve their conflicts.

Foreign Minister Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo discussed these and other topics during a press conference with foreign correspondents in Ottawa.

[Begin Lloreda Caicedo recording, in progress] ...concurrence in several objectives, including the efforts to restore representative democracy in the Central American countries; the efforts to achieve economic and social development in the area's countries; and the search for peace through negotiation and understanding among the countries and forces involved in the Central American conflicts.

These goals permit some coordination between the Contadora Group's policy and efforts and U.S. policy. However, there are probably some differences, because the United States has not rejected a military solution and sends military aid to those countries that maintain the closest ties with it. The United States always promotes...[Lloreda changes thought] has said that it has not ruled out the possibility of military intervention.

Here is a source of differences, because we, the Contadora Group, are making every effort to see that foreign influences withdraw from the Central American area. In other words, the great powers should not use the Central American region to resolve their disputes, and military advisers should be pulled out. In addition, there should be no more massive weapons shipments, as there have been on both sides. I am referring to the military aid being sent by the United States to some countries, and that being sent by the Soviet Union to others.

All of these factors create disruptive situations. That is why we are tenaciously trying to find (?solutions) in the Central American countries, so that they may achieve full independence and break away from the structure of political, economic, and military dependence. They became involved in this situation because of these [words indistinct]. Hence, we have a vicious circle: Since dependence exists, they are forced to participate in this kind of activity, and since this activity exists, tension is generated. Therefore, the area's countries cannot rid themselves of the problem.

I believe that the mid-term and long-term effect of the policy we have implemented through Contadora, with the participation of the five Central American countries, is [words indistinct] with foreign aid but without foreign conditions. These countries should not replace their old dependence on the United States with new dependence on the Soviet Union or Cuba. They would then only be substituting one system of dependence for another, and we must prevent this. [Words indistinct] our primary efforts are directed at seeking international solidarity, so that the area's countries may have the necessary political and economic strength to make their own decisions and to rid themselves of those other things. This is what the Contadora Group is trying to do. [end recording]

Asked about the absence of dialogue between the United States and Cuba, Foreign Minister Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo replied:

[Begin recording] For the time being, we are not trying to achieve a dialogue between the United States and Cuba. It cannot be forced upon them; it all depends on the two countries' desire, because, as you may recall, they have become estranged. However, we have gone to both, seeking their viewpoints and trying to persuade them that the most proper thing for them is [words indistinct] for Central America. We are trying to help these countries advance toward political stability and economic and social development, without having to (?align) with either side of the international political spectrum. We hope that the Central American countries achieve complete self-determination and [word indistinct], so that they will have the necessary democratic systems for choosing their own future. In addition, we want to help them achieve their highest ideals. [end recording]

Foreign Minister Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo is in Canada on an official visit, at the invitation of the Canadian Government. He has explained Colombia's international policy, especially in terms of the Andean Group, the Contadora Group, the Central American conflict, and other aspects of the foreign policy being pursued by President Betancur's government. He will travel to Mexico City on Friday [as heard], where he will talk with President Miguel de la Madrid about the Mexican president's planned trip to Colombia in March. He will also meet with his counterpart, Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda, to examine both bilateral relations and the development of the Contadora Group.

Afterward, he and Foreign Secretary Sepulveda will go to Panama, where they will meet with the Contadora Group foreign ministers. The meeting will include the new Venezuelan foreign minister, who was recently appointed by President Jaime Lusinchi.

MONTANARO SAYS MOPOCO ON U.S. SUBVERSIVE LIST

PY241925 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 24 Feb 84 p 13

[Text] Interior Minister Sabino A. Montanaro is demanding the presentation of a written request before releasing the report put together by a bureau of the U.S. Department of State, which reportedly states that the MOPOCO [Popular Colorado Movement] is a subversive movement. Montanaro displayed this document and offered it to the press last Tuesday during a Colorado rally in Sajonia [Asuncion neighborhood]. On that occasion, in making reference to the contents of the document, Montanaro said: "If there were any doubts about the character of this group of 'very few' ['muy pocos'], no less a body than the U.S. Department of State, in a document drawn up by its antiterrorist department, a copy of which we have, is listing MOPOCO in italics along with Al Fatah, the M-19, ETA, and others among world terrorist organizations.

An ABC COLOR journalist visited the Interior Ministry yesterday to obtain a copy of this document which was offered by Minister Montanaro last Tuesday during the political rally held in Sajonia. However, Minister Montanaro yesterday said that he wanted a written request in order to forward this report. On the other hand, the U.S. Embassy issued the following statement on the report: "We cannot make any comments on what Minister Montanaro has said, because we do not specifically know what document the minister was talking about."

National Accord Reaction

PY242345 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 24 Feb 84 p 13

[Text] In a note to U.S. Ambassador Arthur Davis, the National Accord rejects statements contained in a U.S. State Department report classifying the MOPOCO [Colorado Popular Movement] as an extremist movement. The note also requests further information on the report's contents. The note was prompted by a speech made by Interior Minister Sabino A. Montanaro on Tuesday during a gathering of Colorado Party members in Sajonia. On that occasion, Minister Montanaro said: "If there were any doubts about the character of this group of 'very few' (MOPOCO), no less a body than the U.S. State Department, in a document drawn up by its antiterrorist department, a coppy of which we have, is listing the MOPOCO in italics along with Al Fatah, the M-19, ETA, and others among world terrorist organizations."

The National Accord note reads: "We address you regarding statements made by Minister Montanaro, who has made serious charges against one of the members of the National Accord, the MOPOCO, terming it an extremely dangerous terrorist group. The minister based his statements on alleged documents supplied to our government by no less than the U.S. State Department." "In this regard, we consider it our duty to make it clear that we reject those public charges made by Minister Montanaro, because we consider them false and rash. Moreover, we would like to point out that, even in the remotest chance that there should be some reason for the U.S. State Department to make such charges, the National Accord considers them irrelevant and totally groundless."

The note then states: "Lastly, because we consider it highly important for the moral health of the nation and the coexistence of the Paraguayan peoples that we represent, we request that you be so kind as to explain everything that has to do with the alleged proof mentioned by the interior minister and which was supplied by the U.S. State Department."

The note is signed by Juan M. Benitez Florentin of the Authentic Radical Liberal Party; Romulo Perina of the Christian Democratic Party; Enrique Sanchez of the Febrerista Party; and Miguel A. Gonzalez Casabianca of the MOPOCO.

ABC ON 'POLICE PERSECUTION' OF RETURNED EXILES

PY232335 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 23 Feb 84 p 10

[Editorial: "Why the Police Persecution?"]

[Text] The country has recently seen the return of several citizens who for many years, 25 in some cases, were in exile, and who returned with the interior minister's assurance that they could return. The fact is then that these citizens have been assured the freedom of action which the Constitution and the laws grant to all citizens.

It has turned out, however, that many of these citizens are now being constantly tailed by the police (plainclothesmen following all their movements). This does not seem to be simple "protection," as claimed by some authorities, but an open attempt at curtailing the normal activities of those citizens who, not being different from other national politicians, do not see that they are in danger and have not requested the purported protection extended exclusively to them. Furthermore, were the accusations made by the police chief true, that some of these erstwhile exiles might be engaged in subversive activities, the proper thing to do would be, as the newspaper PATRIA said yesterday, to let "everything proceed according to the law." Situations such as those mentioned by the police chief are covered by the law and, if there is any reliable information about illegal activities, the proper procedure would be to adopt measures which the law already provides, which do not include, obviously, the ostensible tailing of the suspected subversives everywhere they go.

If the police action does not conform to the law, the international image of the country and its government will again suffer, because it has to be kept in mind that the presence of these former exiles in our midst responds to guarantees given by the government, with the approval of various sectors of the citizenry, including the progovernment sector.

In these circumstances, a police action like the one being implemented is not in order, because it does not conform with the law nor with the most elementary principles of freedom that are inherent in a democratic state.

MOPOCO CHAIRMAN SUMMONED, 'WARNED' BY POLICE

PY220245 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 21 Feb 84 p 8

[Text] In a brief interview at 0900 this morning at the Asuncion Central Police office, Commissioner Faustino Benitez, chief of the Public Order Department, warned Dr Miguel Angel Gonzalez Casabianca, chairman of the government junta of the Colorado Popular Movement [MOPOCO], that the police were aware of subversive plans to be implemented by the dissident forces of the Colorado Party, although he did not explain what plans he was referring to.

"I was summoned and informed that the police are aware of alleged subversive activities I am engaged in with the MOPOCO," Gonzalez Casabianca told ULTIMA HORA upon leaving the police central office accompanied by Antonio Gonzalez Prieto, a MOPOCO member.

Gonzalez Casabianca said that he asked the police officer to explain the alleged plans, but was told that "this is a warning, that I would be called back to be told what the subversive plans consist of, and that the police would adopt the appropriate measures," Gonzalez Casabianca stated.

"I take this as a direct attempt to silence our political voice and actions in the country. I told Officer Benitez that we are conducting our political activities in the light of day, without any kind of concealment, and above all, under constant observation, which prevents us from doing anything without the presence of a policeman, including private activities. We are totally submitted to police control. Thus it is absurd to attribute us with subversive activities," Gonzalez Casabianca stated.

He added that he did not know whether this was the police's reaction to a speech he made at the Febrerista Party rally on 17 February, and stressed that "the government is absolutely furious with our presence and is trying to dust off old stories of subversion to justify repression."

The MOPOCO leader said that his movement will continue its current activities.

STATE OF EMERGENCY EXTENDED TO ANOTHER PROVINCE

PY251534 Lima Cadena America Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 25 Feb 84

[Excerpt] The government has ordered the extension of the state of emergency to include Castrovirreyna Province, in Huancavelica Department, in order to combat terrorist actions. This was announced today by Interior Minister Luis Percovich Roca. The state of emergency is now in force in 12 provinces.

GOVERNMENT PROMULGATES INTELLIGENCE LAWS

PY241803 Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 13 Feb 84 p A-4

[Text] The government has promulgated, through legislative decree No 270, the law on the National Intelligence System (SINA), whose purpose is to carry out intelligence activities to contribute to the security of the nation, something that the state guarantees by means of national defense.

The law, which contains 9 chapters and 30 articles, emphasizes that intelligence is closely related to national defense, has a permanent and comprehensive character, and is gathered in different fields within the country.

Article 3 states that strategic intelligence is produced for the presidency of the Republic and for the organizations of the national defense system, adding that this type of intelligence "is of a national level, military, nonmilitary, and sectorial."

The SINA is composed of the Higher Council for Intelligence (CSI), the Intelligence System in Nonmilitary Fields, and the Intelligence System in Military Fields.

Article 7 states that the CSI is the highest level organization within SINA, and that "it manages, coordinates, combines, and controls the activities of strategic intelligence." It is presided over by the chief of the SINA and will hold meetings at least once a month.

The law on the National Intelligence Service (SIN) was also promulgated. This law (legislative decree No 271) comprises seven articles, three supplementary resolutions, and two final resolutions. The SIN reports directly to the president of the Republic, and the prime minister is politically responsible for it.

STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS POLITICALLY ORIENTED

PY231320 Lima Television Service in Spanish 0030 GMT 23 Feb 84

[Text] (Pedro Saldana), Popular Action secretary general for student affairs, has said that the Peruvian university law is, in general terms, very good. He added that the disorders and violent student demonstrations are responses to political interests which are aimed at creating chaos and uncertainty among the population.

CONTADORA MEETINGS SET FOR 27-29 FEBRUARY

PA252038 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 25 Feb 84 pp A-1, A-10

[Communique released by the Panamanian Foreign Ministry in Panama City on 24 February]

[Text] The Panamanian Foreign Ministry hereby reports that the members of the Contadora technical team, consisting of the Contadora deputy foreign ministers, will meet in Panama City on 27, 28 and 29 February. During that time, the technical team will hold meetings with the working committees that were created to draft plans, legal studies and recommendations in the areas of political concerns, security, economics and social considerations, as established in the document entitled "Principles for the Execution of the Commitments Assumed in the Document of Objectives," in accordance with a schedule approved by the technical team in its last meeting, in late January 1984.

The three working committees, consisting of representatives of the five Central American nations (Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Honduras, Guatemala, and El Salvador), will meet with the Contadora Group to complete the time and working schedule for each in the areas mentioned (security, as well as economic and political issues). The plans, once completed, will be turned over to the Contadora and Central American foreign ministers.

This meeting is in accordance with the schedule that was agreed upon at the January meeting in Panama City. In addition, this meeting responds to proposals included in the document on principles for the execution of the commitments assumed in the Document of Objectives.

Further, the foreign ministry reports that, in addition to the deputy foreign ministers' meeting with the working committees, the Contadora foreign ministers (from Mexico, Colombia, Panama, and Venezuela) will meet on 27 and 28 February to assess the most recent events in the region to evaluate the current situation faced by the area's countries.

The meeting between the deputy foreign ministers and the working committees will be held on the morning of Monday, 27 February.

BELIZE

WASHINGTON MEETING PRODUCES ECONOMIC AID PLEDGES

FL230055 Bridgetown CANA in English 1911 GMT 21 Feb 84

[Text] Belmopan, Belize, Feb 21 (CANA) -- Belize has received pledges of continued economic assistance from several international aid donors which attended last week's meeting in Washington of the Caribbean Group for Cooperation in Economic Development, a government release said.

The release said "the sound development policies," pursued by the government, came in for praise at the meeting, which considered a number of economic programmes for this English-speaking Central American nation.

Belize was represented at the meeting by a three-member delegation headed by Education and Economic Development Minister Said Musa. The other members were Central Bank Governor R.C. Swift and Belize's Ambassador to the United States Edney Cain.

According to the release, the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) expressed a desire to continue assisting Belize in improving its water services, the European Economic Community (EEC) wants to further aid in the field of education.

The United Kingdom has promised continued help in road improvement; the United States has indicated a desire to increase aid to housing, and the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) has offered assistance for the upgrading of airport facilities and for the fishing industry, the release said.

Addressing the meeting, Musa told delegates that the Government of Belize was of the view that its efforts must be productivity in agriculture. He said that given Belize's ample resource of arable land and the potential for increasing trade, there is tremendous scope for major development in agro-industries provided the necessary entrepreneural and technological skills were applied.

Contrary to the "erroneous and baseless belief" that Belize does not favour the development of tourism, Musa said the government saw tourism as a priority in the national development strategy.

COSTA RICA

AGREEMENT ON RENEGOTIATING DEBT TO MEXICO SIGNED

PA260406 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 25 Feb 84

[Text] Jesus Silva Herzog, the Mexican secretary of finance and public credit, and Federico Vargas Peralta, the Costa Rican finance minister, this afternoon signed a document to refinance Costa Rica's principal debt to Mexico.

The government-to-government debt -- totaling $6,085,475 -- has been divided into three blocks, based on the LIBOR [London Interbank Offering Rate]. Eighty-five percent of the debt overdue as of 30 June 1982 has been refinanced to be paid in eight semesters, from 31 December to 30 July 1987. Eighty-five percent of the debt that became overdue from 31 July 1982 to 31 December 1983 has been refinanced to be paid in 10 semesters from 30 September 1987 to March 1992. The remaining 15 percent of each of these two blocks will be paid in five installments from 5 March 1984 to 30 September 1985.

Jesus Silva Herzog, the Mexican finance secretary -- after signing the agreement restructuring Costa Rica's debt with Mexico -- said that his government has agreed to extend the oil debt. This means that the $10-million debt acquired by the Costa Rican Oil Refinery, RECOPE, for oil explorations and drillings as part of the San Jose Agreement has been extended for 20 years at a 6-percent interst rate. This debt is currently being paid at an 8-percent interest rate over a 5-year term, which is considered too heavy in view of the current economic and financial situation in the country. For this reason, Costa Rica has been negotiating with Mexican authorities since December for modfications in the terms of this debt, to which De la Madrid's government has finally agreed.

After signing the agreement, Silva Herzog recommended that a delegation from RECOPE travel to Mexico to negotiate an extension of the oil debt. He also said that his government is studying a request from the Costa Rican Electricity Institute for a $21-million credit from the oil bill, to be used in electricity and telephone development projects. Silva Herzog said that this is the first time that his country has acted as creditor in this type of transaction, since Mexico has been the debtor on many occasions in solving similar problems.

Silva Herzog said that this is a small gesture of our support for and solidarity with the Costa Rican Government and people, who are trying hard to confront the economic crisis in the same way that the Mexicans are.

He added: Mexico is willing to study the Costa Rican proposals for continued financial aid, because we know that the crisis has struck this country hard. Silva Herzog noted that his country is trying to obtain $5 billion from international financial organization in order to have enough foreign exchange in 1984, but that, at the same time, it is willing to help other Latin American countries to the extent possible.

Foreign Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez said that this agreement will help to improve Costa Rica's economic situation, which has been seriously battered by the crisis.

Meanwhile, Finance Minister Federico Vargas said that this is another proof of Mexico's support for Costa Rica and of the efforts to straighten out Costa Rica's foreign debt. The fact that the Mexican Government has sent its finance secretary to sign this agreement is a demonstration of Mexico's interest in helping us.

ATTACK ON 6 RURAL GUARDS UNDER INVESTIGATION

PA252203 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 24 Feb 84

[Excerpts] Colonel Oscar Vidal, director general of the Civil Guard, and high officials of the Public Security Ministry have reported that the National Security Council will be informed next week about the armed attack on six rural guards Wednesday at noon.

Colonel Vidal -- who returned last night from the northern region command and conducted an investigation -- said that the attack was perpetrated with mortars, machine guns and other light and heavy weapons and that it lasted approximately 1 hour. This serious incident occurred near Conventillos at the (Morise) farm.

Although the matter is still under investigation, it is presumed that those who fired on the rural guards were members of the Sandinist People's Army.

Col Vidal's report on the armed attack on the six members of the Santa Cruz Rural Guard says that at least 30 mortar rounds fell on the (Morise) farm, adjacent to the Salinas Bay.

According to reports, despite the seriousness of this new violation of our territory, there were no casualties in the incident.

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON VISIT OF JAMAICA'S SEAGA

FL222004 Bridgetown CANA in English 1751 GMT 22 Feb 84

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Feb 21, CANA -- Following is the text of the communique issued yesterday at the end of an official visit to Costa Rica by Jamaica Prime Minister Edward Seaga:

"At the invitation of the Government of Costa Rica, the prime minister of Jamaica made an official visit to the Republic of Costa Rica from the fifteenth to the nineteenth of February, nineteen hundred and eighty four, accompanied by the Minister of State in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Dr Neville Gallimore and senior government officials.

"During the visit, Prime Minister Seaga was received by President of the Republic Don Luis Alberto Monge Alvarez, with whom he spoke at length on various matters of mutual interest to both countries, in the cordial and friendly atmosphere typical of the relations between Jamaica and the Republic of Costa Rica.

"Prime Minister Seaga was also received by the two vice-presidents of the Government of Costa Rica, with whom he spoke on matters of interest to both countries. Prime minister Edward Seaga held talks with the minister of foreign affairs and worship, Don Carlos Jose Gutierrez, and top-level officials of the Costa Rican Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

"Both heads of government availed themselves of the opportunity provided by this visit to renew expressions of fraternity and solidarity, as well as shared concepts on international, regional and bilateral problems in the political and economic spheres.

"Convinced of their peoples' will to share the responsibility for peaceful co-existence with other peoples of the world, with due respect for political, economic, social and ideological diversity, the leaders affirmed their decision to contribute to the solution of international problems and to promote those mechanisms appropriate for the maintenance of international peace and solidarity, strengthening co-operation for economic and social development and the advancement of justice and mutual respect.

"Being identified with criteria, both leaders demonstrated deep concern at the ever-increasing tensions in the Central American region, which must be resolved in order to avoid consequences that would be extremely grave, not only for directly affected countries, but also for the hemisphere as a whole.

"They reiterated that the problems affecting the Central American region will only be solved through the existence of real democracy, and through the application of the peaceful procedures enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, the Charter of the Organisation of American States, and in international laws.... They also pledged to devote all efforts in the search of formulas for co-operation which will help to ease tensions, thereby ensuring the political and democratic stability on which economic development and social progress is built.

"They highlighted the need to guarantee the absolute respect for human rights in this region and reaffirmed their unwavering conviction that the democratic and pluralist system is the form of government best able to guarantee the effective exercise of freedom, the establishment of social justice and respect for human rights. To this effect, they declare their intention to strengthen this system and to encourage its institutionalisation in the continent.

"In this regard, the Government of Costa Rica supports the International Festival of Democratic Youth to be held in Jamaica in April, 1985.

"They reaffirmed their belief in the effectiveness of dialogue as a means of avoiding disputes, reducing tensions and seeking solutions which, with the participation of interested countries, will lead to detente and the strengthening of peace and democracy.

"They ratified their support for the efforts of the Contadora Group, and they expressed the hope that these efforts meet with quick success so as to ensure a lasting peace in the area. In this regard, they advocate the need to expedite the implementation of the measures for disengagement and peacemaking.

"Prime Minister Seaga recognised Costa Rica's policy of perpetual, active and unarmed neutrality enunciated by the president of the republic, Don Luis Alberto Monge, in his proclamation on November 17, 1983, which is directed at the preservation of peace in international relations. With this proclamation, Costa Rica reiterates its repudiation of solutions by force and reaffirms its faith on the importance of the instruments of international law.

"They reiterated their marked interest in expanding and deepening economic co-operation and the integration of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean as an objective leading to economic and social development by supporting the efforts to attain these ends being made by the Organisation of American States (OAS), the Latin American Economic System (SELA) and the United Nations' Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA).

They expressed their decision to support the present efforts at sub-regional economic integration including the Central American common market and the Caribbean community, and they pointed to the urgency of renewing and improving those integrationist processes which are facing situations of crisis. For this purpose they agreed to promote agreements between them with a view to increasing interregional trade as well as other areas of functional co-operation.

"They were particularly pleased with the commencement of the agreement on economic, technical and commercial co-operation, and they acknowledged the importance of this instrument as one of the best ways of increasing co-operation and strengthening the bonds of friendship which have always characterised the good relations between both countries.

"They agreed on the need and desirability of exchange of information and communicating with a view to expanding mutual awareness of the Costa Rican and Jamaican peoples, and, to this end, they agreed that the public radio and television broadcasting services of both countries shall exchange and co-produce programmes.

"They also noted the progress made by the region following the recent creation of the Latin American Agency for Special Information Services (ALASEI) and the revitalisation of National Information Services Action (ASIN), whose functional headquarters has been transferred to Costa Rica, in order to strengthen the communications capacity of Latin American and Caribbean nations.

"Jamaica agreed to promote co-operation with Costa Rica in the field of tourism, with special emphasis on training programmes and on the exchange of know-how and experience on planning, development and marketing of the tourism product.

"In expressing an interest in exchanging information on air transport to further increase trade and tourism links between both countries, both parties were in agreement on the desirability of exchanging information and initiating negotiations within the shortest possible time with a view to concluding an air transport agreement.

"As a result of discussions in the area of agriculture, it was agreed that the Costa Rican Government would assist the Government of Jamaica in establishing a disease detection system and effective quarantine measures for the control of the coffee disease roya, that Costa Rica would make available planting material and technical assistance for developing heart of palm plantings in Jamaica, and that Costa Rica would make available to Jamaica seeds for the production of macadamia nut trees. It was also agreed that there should be an exchange of technical information on bananas and that Jamaica would assist Costa Rica in the rehabilitation of its coca industry.

"In view of Jamaica's interest, Costa Rica offered to receive Jamaican techniques for training in the processing and tasting of coffee.

"Both heads of government agreed to hold consultations on the policies and strategies to be pursued with the Inter-American Coffee Organisation.

"Both leaders declared the need to establish co-operation programmes in the field of health and agreed to continue talks with a view to defining areas of co-operation.

"Costa Rica expressed its willingness to offer assistance in the field of primary health care, organisation and the operation of medical services for mobile units and hospitals.

"The Costa Rican president informed Prime Minister Seaga that the Government of Costa Rica, in association with the Costa Rica Oil Refinery and the Atlantic Port Authority, would build a centre for community activity in the city of Limon to commemorate this distinguished visitor, and in memory of Jamaican national hero, Marcubgarvey, who lived in Costa Rica for some time.

"Prime Minister Seaga extended a cordial invitation to President of the Republic Don Luis Alberto Monge to visit Jamaica and this was accepted with great pleasure. A date for this visit shall be fixed at a later date through diplomatic channels.

"Finally, the prime minister expressed his country's solidarity with the people and Government of Costa Rica in their efforts in search of peace in the region.

"At the end of his visit, the Jamaican prime minister expressed his deep and sincere appreciation for the warm reception, hospitality and courtesies extended to him, his wife, and his official delegation (end of text)".

EL SALVADOR

ARMED FORCES REAFFIRM NEUTRALITY IN ELECTIONS

PA261712 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 24 Feb 84 p 31

[Communique issued by the Salvadoran Armed Forces Press Committee, COPREFA, in San Salvador on 22 February]

[Text] The Salvadoran Armed Forces, in view of recent statements and rumors intended to link them to certain political and union sectors, report that:

1. As the Armed Forces High Command has stated on several occasions, the Armed Forces will maintain a completely apolitical position in the Salvadoran electoral process.

2. Therefore, they will not support any of the legally registered political parties taking part in the electoral campaign.

3. The Armed Forces reaffirm their decision to respect and to ensure respect for the people's will, as freely expressed through their votes in the elections.

4. Finally, the Armed Forces reiterate their request that political parties not involve the Armed Forces in partisan activities from which they are totally detached.

PAISA, PPS, ARENA MAY FORM POLITICAL COALITION

PA240246 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1730 GMT 23 Feb 84

[Text] Colonel Roberto Escobar Garcia, secretary general and presidential candidate of the Salvadoran Authentic Institutional Party, PAISA, and Francisco Quinonez, presidential candidate of the Salvadoran Popular Party, PPS, have announced that they are planning to form a coalition for the 15 March presidential elections.

Only minor issues remain to be resolved, the two politicians said this morning at the PPS headquarters in San Salvador. It was also announced that the Nationalist Republican Alliance, ARENA, might join the coalition. ARENA leader Roberto D'Aubuisson is seriously considering the proposals that PAISA and the PPS have made. Several days ago there were rumors circulating about this coalition, but we will know the truth today at noon, when ARENA holds a news conference.

The PPS and PAISA officially stated at noon today that a coalition to oppose the Christian Democratic Party, PDC, and the National Conciliation Party, PAN, in the 25 March elections is under discussion. [sentence as heard]

ARENA 'Open to Coalitions'

PA251756 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 24 Feb 84 pp 3, 58

[Text] Party leader Armando Calderon Sol yesterday told a press conference: "The Nationalist Republican Alliance, ARENA, is open to coalitions." Calderon maintained, however, that Major Roberto D'Aubuisson will be the next president, coalition or no coalition.

Calderon also said that the only parties with which ARENA would not join a coalition are the National Conciliation Party, PCN; the Democratic Action Party, AD; and the Christian Democratic Party, PDC. The first two had objected to the articles in the electoral law that authorized such alliances, while ARENA would not even consider an alliance with the PDC.

Calderon asserted, however: "We are open to those who want to join us."

The leader explained: "In any event, a document must be signed in order for a coalition to exist; and the deadline for this has been set at midnight next Sunday, 26 February."

In addition, Dr Jose Antonio Rodriguez Porth and Calderon announced that on Wednesday ARENA had submitted further arguments to the Central Electoral Council against Dr Pablo Mauricio Alvergue as a presidential candidate for the PDC.

UPD ANNOUNCES SUPPORT FOR CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS

PA251624 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1800 GMT 24 Feb 84

[Salvadoran "Democratic Popular Unity, UPD, Declaration on the Coming Elections"; read by party leader Jorge Camacho at a UPD press conference on 24 February -- recorded]

[Excerpt] The UPD declares to its rank and file, our beloved people, and the world's peoples that:

1. During the Constituent Assembly sessions at which our country's genuine sociopolitical and economic interests were raised, we were able to get a very clear picture of the ultraconservative forces and of the political parties that represent them. It is these forces that have used the country just as they wished for so many years and that continue to be responsible for the current bloodshed and grief.

2. Unfortunately, the coming election is for president and vice president of the republic only, meaning that the current alignment of forces in the Constituent Assembly will continue. It is this alignment of forces that brought the agrarian reform to a standstill, that opposed Decree No 207, that refused to acknowledge the right to strike and left the working class without the right to share in the profits of a business, and that denied government employees the right to form a union. It would be disastrous were a rightist president and vice president to win the elections, and even worse were the winners to have an unmistakably ultra-rightist tendency, a tendency that is markedly present in all of the political parties except the Christian Democrats and the Democratic Action.

3. The UPD has maintained throughout its struggle in the Constituent Assembly that it would support its friends and defeat its enemies.

4. In view of the brief period alloted for registering coalitions with the Central Electoral Council it was not possible to make a sustained effort to create a democratic alliance with the Christian Democratic and Democratic Action Parties, which was our organization's highest goal; thus, we have decided to give our total support to the Christian Democratic Party in the elections.

PCN'S GUERRERO STRESSES CORRUPTION, JUSTICE

PA222153 San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 20 Feb 84

["Voice and Image of the Central Electoral Council" program: statement by Francisco Jose Guerrero, presidential candidate of the National Conciliation Party, PCN, during a round table of presidential candidates held at the Salvadoran Center for Legal Studies on 24 January -- recorded]

[Excerpts] Your Excellency, president of the Legislative Assembly: Your Excellency, vice president of the republic, members and directors of the Salvadoran Center for Legal Studies, ladies and gentlemen:

The politicians who are participating in this electoral process have a great responsibility.

We all agree that corruption has always existed, and that we have to eradicate it. As for the practical steps needed to accomplish this, one of the distinguished speakers who preceded me mentioned the constitutional norms. However, we lack straightforward and just measures. Don't you think that by embracing a common goal, that by fighting corruption, we could create an interparty commission? Not to discuss politics, but to unite ourselves against corruption -- that cancer that debilitates El Salvador in its struggle against criminals and external forces.

I think that one way of proving our true commitment to fighting corruption would be the creation of such a commission. The commission would propose legislation -- laws are good -- and practical measures as well.

Corruption and embezzlement have worsened. We therefore have a goal: moral recovery. I want to formally invite the National Conciliation Party, together with the other candidates and parties, to promote and to draft a practical legal system to eradicate the cancer of corruption from our country.

We have two primary goals in our party platform: jobs and education. As regards education, our priority is the recovery of moral values.

Next, I would like to address the topic of justice. To deny that there has been injustice in El Salvador would be to close one's eyes to the truth. There has been and there is a climate of injustice. There have been attempts to overcome those instances of injustice, and efforts have been made in that direction within our limited capabilities. There have been certain interests, however, which are deaf as well as blind, which have prevented prompt implementation of the programs of social justice.

However, outside the sphere of social justice, the subject that most concerns us Salvadorans is the administration of justice in the past few years.

The national and international scandal created by a certain slowness or by certain ways of conducting legal processes has led to a generalized accusation regarding the administration of justice.

So many fellow attorneys who are here, so many of those present here tonight who are knowledgeable in the law despite the fact that they are not lawyers, fully realize that this is a wrong that is not easy to right.

We must update our system for the administration of justice. Many of the reforms to foster a healthy system to administer justice through the strengthening of the judicial branch have been proposed by the PCN in its platform, have been accepted enthusiastically, and have been improved on by other deputies in the assembly debates. The people should feel reassured and happy that there is a consensus on these noble goals.

However, from the text of the law and the Constitution we must move on to practical measures. We need ways to truly protect our judges. We must not allow a judge to be transferred to a different court because of the way he might rule on a case. We must not allow him to run the risk of being murdered, in the same way that a witness who might possibly not acquiesce to certain requests is sometimes murdered to prevent him from testifying. The situation that we are currently experiencing does not allow us to offer such guarantees. We must seek specialized and technical mechanisms to offer that protection. We must modernize our investigative techniques. In this age of advanced technology we must seek the technology to enable us to accomplish professional investigations.

On the topic of violence: The whole world is affected by savage violence, not only El Salvador, but Lebanon, Africa, many areas of the Mideast, as well as Asia. However, violence in El Salvador has characteristics that horrify us all.

We in the PCN believe that violence is the result of external and internal factors. We will not refer to the external factors of which everyone is aware, to the Soviet expansionist goals, to Cuba's and Nicaragua's goals. However, regarding the internal factor, it is disturbing that those situations said to be the causes of injustice have been corrected, a series of reforms have been introduced, and structures have been changed; but the guerrillas have remained active, subversion has increased, subversion has not stopped.

What is happening? How should we remedy this? We have tried everything. We must continue trying, but we must keep our eyes open. Subversion has declared a prolonged people's war designed to disrupt our economy. No matter how many times we call on the guerrillas to talk and to seek an understanding, they never agree to those talks. They do not want to share power, but to seize it.

However, we cannot behave as they do. On 25 March the citizens will go to the polls en masse. On that day the citizens will have the last word. If the turnout is overwhelming, if the turnout is good, the Salvadoran people will have shown their preference, their support for the democratic system. On the other hand, if the people show indifference and apathy to the point of absenteeism, if there is a low voter turnout, then we must brace ourselves, distinguished guests, because that will be the beginning of the end.

A candidate that reaches the presidency without the support of all the people, of a large group, of a strong sector of the electorate, will lead a government unable to defeat the subversives.

That is what the people expect from the candidates and from the parties: that we guide democracy toward its successful conclusion. I am not saying that we must keep mistakes a secret. That is just what democracy is for, to correct mistakes, but we must learn to correct them patriotically.

This election is not like past ones, nor is it like the elections that take place in other countries. It is a crucial decision. Our attitude will determine whether we continue living in a democratic system or surrender to totalitarianism. Hence all political leaders have a duty to the fatherland to preach tolerance and -- allow me to proselytize -- to preach the conciliation of all Salvadorans. [applause]

The Constituent Assembly convoked, or rather decided there should be, elections for deputies in 1985. This is a wonderful opportunity. We can draft pacification programs with the understanding that we will establish guarantees so that persons who are part of the political sector, not the armed sector, may take part, the MNR [National Revolutionary Movement] and the UDN [Nationalist Democratic Union], so that all those persons who have been part of those organizations and want to participate in these 1985 elections for deputies may do so. That is the goal that we should all strive for. We have enough time to draft a program of guarantees. We can begin working on 1 July, or even before that.

On 26 March, when we learn who has won the election, all the other parties must acknowledge that winner in order to begin seeking peace formulas, because peace is not the exclusive right of one party, but of all Salvadorans. We must begin to pave the way for peace, but not through immediate negotiations, because if we do, we run the risk of some sectors' misunderstanding and complicating the situation. This situation, which began in the seventies, has gradually worsened, and we cannot expect to solve it overnight. However, we must attempt to solve it.

We must make a pause, a cease-fire, a breather that will allow us to recover, so that later, by common accord, in the brotherhood that our democracy will provide, we may progress and lead our country out of this difficult situation.

We have a commitment: to create jobs. Our industrial sector has an infrastructure that is quite deserving of consideration, since it already exists. By supporting the agricultural and industrial infrastructures, we will begin to reactivate El Salvador's economy. Here again, important factors are coffee, sugar, and cotton, which will generate the foreign exchange necessary to set the entire industrial apparatus in motion.

The PCN does not intend to strengthen those businesses with capital concentrated in the hands of a few. We favor neither corporations held in the hands of a few nor state corporations. In that area, we will offer the electorate a program for a private enterprise system that will allow worker participation in the capital, a participation by conviction, not by force, based on rewards and incentives, so that the workers may share not only the benefits but the risks as well, and so that all Salvadorans may understand that we are experiencing a time of common sacrifice and effort.

If we succeed in eradicating corruption, begin advancing toward the elimination of violence, consolidate a healthy system of justice, reactivate the economy, and tolerate those who think differently than we do, then we will have served our country. That is the duty of all Salvadorans, regardless of their political preferences.

REPORTAGE ON GOVERNMENT, REBEL MILITARY ACTIVITY

FMLN Attacks in Santa Ana

PA241600 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 22 Feb 84 p 27

[Excerpt] Santa Ana, 22 Feb -- An FMLN attack in Guarnecia yesterday left six members of the Armed Forces, two civilians, and three guerrillas dead, the Santa Ana Department military command reported today. The attack began after midnight on Monday. A small group of 2d Infantry Brigade troops from the Pipil and Tecana Battalions resisted tenaciously for 7 hours and were able to hold off the attack until reinforcements arrived at approximately 0600. The rebels fled, taking their dead and wounded, although they were forced to leave three bodies behind, our source said.

Army Clashes with Terrorists

PA240354 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1800 GMT 23 Feb 84

[Press bulletin released by the Salvadoran Armed Forces Press Committee, COPREFA, on 23 February]

[Text] A total of 10 terrorists have been killed in a clash with Salvadoran Army troops near El Capullo Hill, Masahuat municipality, in Santa Ana Department. The terrorists, who attacked the town of Masahuat 3 days ago, killing four soldiers and two civil defense volunteers who were guarding the town, were tracked down by the Salvadoran Army troops.

The Armed Forces yesterday reported that two officers and three soldiers were killed and three other soldiers were injured when the vehicle in which they were traveling ran over a Claymore mine at the Los Conejos crossroads in Tecoluca municipality.

Terrorists yesterday attacked train No 852, which was transporting a tractor and other equipment to repair bridges. The attack was carried out near the village of San Rafael, Tecoluca municipality, San Vicente Department. This is another of the FMLN's actions in the war that it has declared on the reconstruction work being carried out throughout the country. The train was on its way to El Burro Bridge, which is under repair for the damage caused by extremists. The conductor was injured in this criminal FMLN attack.

Sabotage Causes San Vicente Blackout

PA240450 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1800 GMT 23 Feb 84

[Text] San Vicente -- The power failure from 11 pm Tuesday to 6:45 am Wednesday, which resulted in large losses to industry, was caused by the destruction of three towers holding high-tension powerlines of the Lempa River Hydroelectric Executive Commission, CEL. The posts, which were apparently destroyed by explosives placed by extremists, were located between kilometers 64 and 65 of the highway stretching from San Vicente to Tecoluca. A team of workers was sent to repair them. San Vicente and other towns were without electricity because of the sabotage to the powerlines.

In another report, authorities claim that they were not asked to guard a train and its cargo, which were attacked.

The commander of the 5th Infantry Brigade said that extremists were able to dynamite and burn a train, engine No 852, and two tractors because they were unguarded. The train was taking the tractors to El Burro Bridge, which is being repaired.

Meanwhile, Colonel Rolando Adrian Ticas, commander of the 5th Infantry Brigade, yesterday told YSU that the sabotage was possible because of a lack of military vigilance. He said that this would not have happened if the train company had asked for protection, because the Army would have repelled the subversives, who insist on destroying the resources providing aid to hundreds of Salvadoran families.

Army Stages Combing Action

PA261714 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 25 Feb 84 pp 4, 61

[Text] Troops from the 5th Infantry Brigade were deployed yesterday at various points in San Vicente Department to comb areas in which extremist groups have been active. Meanwhile, other Army units have continued to seek out, locate, and destroy subversive hideouts in Chalatenango, San Miguel, Morazan, and Usulutan Departments. This was reported yesterday by Armed Forces sources. The sources said that the Army not only constantly combs the areas of conflict, but patrols the entire nation, including rural areas, highways, agricultural areas, general industrial areas and so forth.

A clandestine radio station yesterday said that the FMLN had attacked a railroad convoy in Aguilares. However, after consulting the Salvadoran National Railway, FENADESAL, and the local Army headquarters, we learned that this was "fabricated misinformation." The report was categorically denied by the state-owned FENADESAL, as well as by the Army headquarters in Aguilares.

FMLN Claims 6 Casualties

PA251507 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 25 Feb 84

[Text] Dispatches from San Vicente indicate that on 23 February, on the road from Tecoluca to San Vicente, our revolutionary forces ambushed an Army vehicle bearing officers and troops of the Armed Forces Engineers Training Center, CIIFA, located in Zacatecoluca. The vehicle was headed for the 5th Infantry Brigade headquarters in San Vicente. In the ensuing action, our forces destroyed the vehicle and inflicted six casualties on the puppet army. An officer named Oliva, who was in charge of the center's intelligence office, was killed, as were a corporal and three soldiers who were the personal bodyguards for Lieutenant Colonel Mario Denis Moran, the commander of the training center. This information was sent to Radio Venceremos from the Anastasio Aquino paracentral front.

Guerrillas Ambush Train

PA260431 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 1830 GMT 25 Feb 84

[Text] We have received the following information from the Modesto Ramirez Central Front. Train transportation is no guarantee for the soldiers of the puppet army. On 23 February, combat units of our people's militia successfully ambushed a train carrying soldiers. The action took place near Aguilares, in the northern part of the Department of San Salvador. The dictatorship's army suffered no less than 11 casualties -- dead or wounded -- during this surprise harassment operation.

The enemy has been using trains lately to transport troops and war materiel. We send fraternal combat greetings to the members of our brave people's militia, who continue defeating the plans of the criminal dictatorship.

FMLN Releases 16 POW's

PA261221 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 1830 GMT 25 Feb 84

[Text] We respect the lives of soldiers who surrender. Once more, the FMLN has demonstrated its full support for our revolutionary principles and for international agreements on POW's. On 22 February, 16 of the dictatorship's troops were released in Atiocoyo, in northern La Libertad Department. An FMLN guerrilla column occupied Atiocoyo on that day, and the 16 soldiers, who had been captured in an armed clash in this same town on 11 February, were turned over to the civilian population during a combat meeting.

On 11 February, FMLN revolutionary battalions assaulted and occupied the enemy's trenches and command post in Atiocoyo, inflicting more than 55 casualties on the government troops, capturing 25 soldiers, and recovering 75 weapons. On the same day, our forces freed three wounded soldiers who surrendered. Six more soldiers have become combatants for our people's army, following voluntary and individual decisions to join the people's struggle for a just society. After releasing the 16 soldiers, our units left in an orderly and disciplined manner.

RUBEN ZAMORA OUTLINES FMLN-FDR PEACE PROPOSALS

PA240330 Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 20 Feb 84 pp 1, 15

[By special correspondent Roberto Bardini]

[Excerpts] Managua, 14 Feb -- Ruben Zamora, one of the seven members of El Salvador's FMLN-FDR Political-Diplomatic Commission, granted an exclusive interview to EL DIA in Managua. He said: "We are patient; the Salvadoran regime will have to accept the negotiations proposed by the FMLN and the FDR, because these groups already control large areas of the country and act as a government."

Zamora explained that the rebels will not participate in the March elections because there are increasing possibilities that the United States might intervene in El Salvador before doing so in Nicaragua. He stressed that the Contadora Group should keep the Salvadoran crisis in mind. He also referred to the tragic deaths of Commanders Salvador Cayetano Carpio and Melida Amaya Notes.

Bases for a New Provisional Government

[Question] What is the latest FMLN-FDR political proposal that was presented on 10 February in Mexico?

[Answer] The proposal is aimed at the Salvadoran people and the international community. It consists of a provisional government with many sectors participating. Its duration will be only until its basic goals have been achieved and until there is some agreement among the sectors. This government should be composed of workers, peasants, professionals, government employees, private enterprises, political parties, the Armed Forces once they are purified, and, of course, the FMLN-FDR. None of these groups should take precedence over the others.

[Question] What would be the political goals of this provisional government?

[Answer] It should fulfill five basic goals: First, the recovery of national independence and sovereignty; second, generation of respect for human rights and achievement of the full democratization of the country; third, dissolution of the system of repression and torture that has been engineered in recent years; fourth, adoption of more urgent measures to fulfill the people's immediate needs; fifth, convocation of general elections. This government should consist of a junta of no fewer than three and no more than five members, to be appointed by agreement among the sectors; a national cabinet; a consultative council; and a supreme court of justice.

[Question] Do you propose a government program or concrete measures?

[Answer] Our proposal contains 20 measures, some of which include the repeal of the 1983 Constitution, repeal of all repressive decrees and the state of siege, recognition of the right of farm and government workers to join labor unions, dismantling of police bodies -- there are five in El Salvador -- and the creation of a single police force under the Interior Ministry (now practically a part of the Army), suppression of the "death squads" and their political arm, the Nationalist Republican Alliance (ARENA), which is led by Major Roberto D'Aubuisson.

There is also a program for reconstructing the damaged or destroyed infrastructure of the health, education, and public services fields. The proposal also includes decreeing a moratorium on debt payments for small and medium enterprises and price controls on staples to improve the workers' real wages. It also includes the immediate withdrawal of U.S. and other military advisers, an end to the supply of all weapons to the government, and adoption of a nonaligned policy. We also propose the bases for a true agrarian reform and the nationalization of El Salvador's foreign trade and financial system.

Several proposals and counterproposals have been presented in recent years. One was from Mexico and France, and another was from Mexico and Venezuela. Meanwhile, Ronald Reagan's government has sponsored the creation of the Central American Democratic Community, the Forum for Peace and Democracy in San Jose, the appointment of Richard Stone as special ambassador to Central America, and the formation of the so-called Kissinger commission.

FMLN ANNOUNCES NEW POLITICAL-MILITARY CAMPAIGN

PA270137 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 1830 GMT 26 Feb 84

[Text] We have important information for our working people. The FMLN has begun a new national political-military campaign. We are disclosing that the General Command [words indistinct] to unleash the power of our weapons in a new guerrilla campaign throughout El Salvador. This campaign is aimed at continuing to wear down the dictatorship's puppet army through effective blows on the troops trained by the Gringos. We have begun a new campaign. All the organizations belonging to the FMLN will participate in this operation, under the same slogan and motto: "Long Live the Heroes and Martyrs of 28 February 1977" [words indistinct].

With this campaign, we render tribute to our brothers who sacrificed their lives under the regime's machine gun, including Colonel Arturo Armando Molina, at the San Salvador Libertad Plaza. In 1977, when our people were protesting the electoral fraud, the repressive forces [words indistinct] brothers and compatriots, to enthrone the repudiated National Conciliation Party.

One or two traitors who sold out to Yankee imperialism have forgotten the slaughter of 28 February 1977 in their selfishness and desire to make a political career. However, our people have not forgotten, and thus, within the framework of the people's struggle for better salaries, liberty, and respect for human rights, the FMLN, vanguard of the Salvadorans, promotes this new guerrilla campaign.

Our weapons -- held by our people: peasants, workers, teachers, students -- are ready for combat, and we can already hear the victorious explosions, the sound of our guerrilla machine guns. The workers' army aims its weapons at the people's enemies. All our weapons to the battle, all our weapons toward victory! "Long live the Heroes and Martyrs of 28 February 1977!"

HONDURAS

BELIZEAN PRIME MINISTER PRICE ARRIVES FOR VISIT

Holds Press Conference

PA250435 Tegucigalpa Televisora Hondurena in Spanish 0130 GMT 24 Feb 84

[Text] Belizean Prime Minister George Price this afternoon arrived in Tegucigalpa seeking to establish better relations with Honduras. He was welcomed by General Gustavo Alvarez, Armed Forces chief, and Carlos Flores, minister of the presidency. Here is a report from Mario Calix:

[Begin recording] [Calix] Shortly after his arrival, George Price -- who will meet tomorrow with the president and officials from various sectors -- gave a short press conference. He said that his goal is to improve bilateral relations with Honduras.

[Price] Our nations -- Honduras and Belize -- have always maintained close relations. We must unite our efforts to fight economic problems in order to overcome them and to achieve a better future. The world's future depends on us and we must fulfill our duty.

[Calix] Would Belize be willing to participate in CONDECA [Central American Defense Council] to protect the region?

[Price] We must wait for future developments. Belize currently has an arrangement with the United Kingdom regarding its defense. However, we must wait to see what the future has in store.

[Calix] Will you discuss at all the territorial problem between Honduras and Belize?

[Price] What problem?

[Calix] The problem of Cayos Zapotillos.

[Price] Well, we will not fight over that. The Cayos Zapotillos belong to Belize. [laughter in background]

[Calix] What can you say about foreign military intervention to protect the so-called regional security?

[Price] We have a small army for our defense, not for offensive purposes.

[Calix] Do you think that Nicaragua is a threat to Central American peace?

[Price] I did not come here to discuss other countries' problems. I have come, on a kind invitation by your president, to promote bilateral relations between Honduras and Belize. *[end recording]*

Meets With Suaz

FL241825 Bridgetown CANA in English 1548 GMT 24 Feb 84

[Text] Tegucigalpa, Feb 24, CANA -- Belize's Prime Minister George Price was meeting with Honduran President Roberto Suazo Cordova today on the second day of a visit he says is aimed at strengthening the bonds of economic cooperation between the two countries. "Our nations have always had very close ties," Price said on arrival yesterday. "Now we have to unite to combat economic problems, and thus we will overcome them."

Asked to comment on regional strife, Price said Belize had a policy of non-intervention and supported the peace-seeking efforts of the so-called Contadora Group -- Mexico, Colombia, Panama and Venezuela. He said he also applauded the recommendation by President Reagan's special commission on Central America that political efforts to promote peace in the region be combined with support for economic development.

Asked if Belize would consider joining the Central American Defense Council (CONDECA), Price said it already had defence agreements with Britain. "But we will have to see what the future brings," he added. Britain maintains a garrison of 1,800 troops in Belize to defend it from invasion by neighbouring Guatemala, which claims the whole of Belize as its own territory. Belize also has a long standing territorial dispute with Honduras over the Zapatillos Islands off the Atlantic coast, but both Price and Paz Barnica denied they had discussed this. Prise is expected to leave Honduras on Saturday.

NICARAGUA

HUMBERTO ORTEGA SENDS GREETINGS TO USTINOV

PA250448 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0131 GMT 25 Feb 84

["Text" of message sent to USSR Marshal Dmitriy Ustinov, minister of defense, by Commander of the Revolution Humberto Ortega Saavedra, defense minister and commander in chief of the Sandinist People's Army, EPS, on the occasion of the 66th anniversary of the Soviet Armed Forces -- date not given]

[Text] Comrade Dmitriy Ustinov, marshal of the USSR, member of the CPSU Politburo, defense minister of the USSR:

Dear Comrade Minister:

On behalf of the FSLN National Directorate, the EPS, and my own behalf, please accept fraternal greetings on the occasion of the celebration of the 66th anniversary of the creation of the glorious Soviet Army and Navy.

With revolutionary spirit,

Commander of the Revolution Humberto Ortega Saavedra

FRG'S WISCHNEWSKI ENDS VISIT TO MANAGUA

PA270213 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 25 Feb 84

[Text] Hans Juergen Wischnewski, chairman of the FRG SPD's [Social Democratic Party] commission for foreign relations and development, returned to his country today after attending ceremonies commemorating the 50th anniversary of General Augusto C. Sandino's murder. Wischnewski said that he was pleased with the attention that he had received from the government and added that elections in Nicaragua will help in the democratization of Central America.

During his visit in Nicaragua, the SPD leader met with members of the Government Junta and offered to endorse reactivating economic aid for Nicaragua before the FRG Government. Wischnewski was seen off at the airport by Deputy Commander Enrique Schmidt, minister of the Nicaraguan Telecommunications and Postal Services Institutes, and officials of the Foreign Ministry.

IRANIAN OFFICIAL INVITES ORTEGA TO VISIT

LD231053 Tehran IRNA in English 0900 GMT 23 Feb 84

[Text] Managua, Feb 23, IRNA -- The deputy foreign minister in charge of consular and cultural affairs, Javad Mansuri, in his Wednesday meeting with Daniel Ortega, the coordinator of the National Reconstruction Council of Nicaragua, and submitted President Khamene'i's message. [sentence as received]

Mansuri, referring to the upcoming visit of a Nicaraguan delegation to Iran, expressed the hope that Ortega would himself pay a visit to the Islamic Republic during which he could see for himself the great developments achieved in post revolution Iran. He added that such a visit would no doubt prove beneficial in further expanding cooperation between the two countries.

Ortega thanked the Iranian official for the invitation and hoped to visit Iran soon. He added that the Islamic revolution had created new values in the history of humanity.

The Iranian delegation arrived in Managua, Nicaragua Tuesday to attend the ceremonies on the occasion of the 50th death anniversary of General Augusto Cesar Sandino, the ideologue of the Sandinist revolution.

SAHARAN DELEGATION ARRIVES ON OFFICIAL VISIT

PA231902 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 22 Feb 84

[Text] Mahfoud Ali Beiba, prime minister of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic, this morning arrived in our country to express his solidarity with the Sandinist revolution on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of General Sandino's assassination.

The visiting official is slated to meet Nicaraguan Government leaders, with whom he will discuss the threat of U.S. aggression faced by both Nicaragua and his country. His delegation includes National Protocol Director (Salem Caid) and (Fajma Talet), a member of the Union of Saharan Women.

Foreign Ministry Issues Communique

PA250250 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 2127 GMT 24 Feb 84

[Communique released by the Foreign Ministry in Managua on the visit to Nicaragua of Mahfoud Ali Beiba, prime minister of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic, on 24 February -- read by Foreign Minister Father Miguel D'Escoto]

[Text] Communique released by the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry on the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic:

Within the framework of the 50th anniversary of the murder of the general of free men, Augusto Cesar Sandino, and on the occasion of the 8th anniversary of the founding of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic on 27 February, the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry reiterates its support for and solidarity with the just cause of the Saharaui people and issues a call to the peoples and government of the world, especially to Latin American governments, to recognize -- those that have not already done so -- the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic and the Polisario Front as the sole and legal representative of the Saharaui people.

Since 1973 the Saharaui people have been waging a bloody battle in defense of their sovereignty. In 1976, in open violation of international law, Morocco invaded the so-called Spanish Sahara and claimed it as an annexation. Throughout these years, the Saharaui people have waged a heroic struggle against the invaders and have liberated most of their national territory. They received UN support in 1982 when the majority of the countries present voted in favor of the inalienable right of the people of the Western Sahara to their independence and urgently requested that Morocco and the Polisario Front begin negotiations aimed at a ceasefire.

During its 19th summit meeting in 1983 the OAU approved a resolution demanding the start of direct negotiations between the Polisario Front and Morocco that would permit referendum on the self-determination of the Saharaui people. This agreement was seconded by the United Nations at the 28th session of the General Assembly.

The Moroccan leaders have not only mocked the resolution adopted by the OAU and the UN, but in recent months have increased military attacks against the Saharaui people. The military, political, and financial support of the Reagan administration explains the defiant stand and arrogance of the Hassan II regime for all the peace initiatives.

The current U.S. Government and Morocco have mutually drafted a plan for 1984 in an attempt to recover the lost territory and to try to impose a military solution. This U.S. and Moroccan attitude endangers the security and peace of the region and seriously threatens to regionalize the North African conflict. Nicaragua denounces the U.S. and Moroccan Governments' attacks on the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic and once again recognizes the legal right of this people to self-determination and independence.

SPANISH COMMUNIST LEADER COMMENTS ON VISIT

PA231826 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 22 Feb 84

[Text] Enrique Curiel, deputy secretary general of the Spanish Communist Party, said before returning to his country that he will seek more economic and political solidarity with the Sandinist revolution from his government.

[Begin Curiel recording] All the members of the Spanish delegation are very impressed by the reality of the Sandinist revolution. We had already formed an idea about this revolution as a result of the great solidarity with the Sandinist revolution that exists in Spain. We are very impressed because we have seen a (?marching) people; we have seen a people determined to attain and to preserve the conquests made by the Sandinist revolution. We have also seen many young people. We visited Palacaguina with Commander Jaime Wheelock for a land distribution ceremony, and it was very impressive to view the future prospects of the Nicaraguan revolutionary process. [end recording]

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS TO WITNESS ELECTIONS

PA250319 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 24 Feb 84

[Text] Commander of the Revolution Carlos Nunez Tellez, president of the State Council, has revealed that international observers will visit Managua both during the process of registering the voters and on election day, which has been officially set by the Nicaraguan revolutionary government for 4 November.

The Supreme Electoral Council has invited [words indistinct] including the Socialist International, liberal democrats, and the Contadora Group. The same organization, which will be in charge of our country's presidential elections, will invite countries from the Nonaligned Movement, the Latin American Parliament, the European Parliament, and other organizations.

NUNEZ EXPLAINS SUPREME ELECTORAL COUNCIL'S TASK

PA240318 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 23 Feb 84

[Text] The Supreme Electoral Council that will be formed in late March will be charged with asking the Government Junta to lift the state of emergency, Carlos Nunez Tellez, commander of the revolution and president of the State Council, said today. The state of emergency was implemented in March 1982 when counterrevolutionary activities increased in the northern and southern parts of the country, and when the threat of direct intervention by the United States surfaced.

The formation of the Supreme Electoral Council, one of the four state branches, is established in the electoral law, which the State Council began debating today. State Council President Commander Nunez said that one of the first tasks of the State Council when it meets for its fifth legislative period beginning in May will be to approve the laws on communications media and on the functions the National Assembly, whose 90 members will be elected on 4 November together with the president and vice president of the republic.

STATE COUNCIL APPROVES DRAFT ELECTORAL LAW

PA240344 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 23 Feb 84

[Text] Following intense debates, the State Council tonight generally approved the draft electoral law. Right-wing parties represented in the council had tried to slow approval of the law by using delaying tactics throughout the day. Social Christian Party representative Julio Ramon Garcia Vilchez presented a motion that was considered antijuridical, because Garcia belonged to the commission but had withdrawn from the debates.

In a surprise move, Orlando Quinonez, a representative from the Independent Liberal Party [PLI], asked that the state of emergency be lifted. The motion was rejected by Domingo Sanchez, a representative from the Socialist Party, who said that lifting the state of emergency would weaken the country's defense, arguing that for this reason the PLI motion should be rejected.

The bill that was approved suggests that the law on political parties has contributed to the country's political pluralism. It also states that the exercise of suffrage must be viewed as a patriotic responsibility, which is freely exercised by citizens in order to elect the supreme authorities. It must also be considered a civic duty that expresses and guarantees the direct presence of the people in the fundamental matters of the country. In its most important section, the bill suggests that the elections must be free, direct, equal, and secret in order to respond accurately to the reality of our peoples.

9 Articles Passed

PA250537 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 24 Feb 84

[Text] The plenary of the State Council approved nine articles of the electoral law yesterday at 2110, following debates which began at 1700. According to Article 1, the Sandinist people's revolution regulates and instutitionalizes the Nicaraguan people's right to elect their supreme authorities in a free, direct, and sovereign manner, through universal and secret balloting. The same principle applies to the right to be elected to government posts.

The electoral law specifies that national elections will be held for president and vice president. To elect members of the National Assembly -- to be composed of 90 representatives and their respective alternates -- the country will be divided into regions, subregions, and special regions. Orlando Quinonez of the Independent Liberal Party expressed his opposition to this regulation, saying that fewer regions should exist to reduce expenses.

Regarding electoral institutions, the law establishes that the Supreme Electoral Council will be the highest authority and judge on electoral matters, and will guarantee the Nicaraguan citizens' right to free, equal, and secret voting.

Article 9 mentions that the Supreme Electoral Council will be composed of a president and two members, and their respective alternates. They will be appointed by the Supreme Court of Justice no more than 15 days after the electoral law takes effect.

Fanor Avendano, a delegate from the Social Christian Party, presented the same minority recommendations previously made by Julio Ramon Garcia. However, his presentation was negated because the general provisions of the law had already been approved the previous day. The seventh special session will continue at 1500 today and at 1000 tomorrow.

11 More Articles Approved

PA261801 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 25 Feb 84

[Text] After a long session that lasted until 2300 last night, the State Council approved 11 more of the 158 articles of the electoral law.

The representatives of the Social Democratic Party, Independent Liberal Party, and Social Christian Party insisted during the debate that the calendar for the parties' electoral campaign be revealed following approval of the law. However, after a detailed explanation from the Council's leaders, they were persuaded to agree that the campaign should be discussed in the upcoming sessions. The debates are scheduled to continue at 1000 on Monday morning.

PCDN COORDINATOR ON PARTY RIFT, FACTIONS

PA250715 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 24 Feb 84

[Text] A group from the divided Democratic Conservative Party of Nicaragua, PCDN, has broken into the organization's headquarters in open confrontation with the group holding legal jurisdiction over the site. The PCDN divided a few months ago when a group led by Mario Rappaccioli and Miriam Arguello split from the board of directors, led by Clemente Guido. Clemente Guido and his followers have expressed an interest in participating in November's presidential elections with their own candidate, in conjunction with other groups opposed to the government, while the faction led by Mario Rappaccioli has called for abstention from the elections.

Felix Pedro Espinosa, PCDN representative to the State Council, said that the incident required police intervention and will be brought before a judge. He added that the PCDN headquarters were legally turned over to his group, and this prompted the reaction of the second group, which took over the house and held a session yesterday morning.

PCDN coordinator Enrique Sotelo Borgen described the rift between the legitimate faction led by Clemente Guido, and the more traditional one, led by Mario Rappaccioli as a rebellion against the stance of the top PCDN leaders.

According to Sotelo, the incidents occurring within his party are perhaps caused by discrepancies between the Arguello and Rappaccioli factions.

PCDN Coordinator Enrique Sotelo Borgen made the following statement regarding yesterday's incident at the party's headquarters:

[Begin recording] [Sotelo -- in progress] ...the others not legally recognized, but who are also (?conservatives) would react in this manner. The issue had been postponed, and thus resulted in a misunderstanding. I think that breaking down a door is going a bit far; nevertheless, when I realized what was happening, I ordered that the party's doors remain open, as they should always be for all conservative citizens, since this house should not discriminate.

The board of directors over which I preside represents the party's house, its symbol, and its seal, and is ready to thoroughly obey the orders given by the party's rank and file and highest authorities. This means that perhaps there is a situation -- a discrepancy -- between the stance of our group and the faction led by Miriam Arguello. She is the main leader, a very active woman with an ability to organize. She is very clever, hard-working, has vast political experience, and has managed to organize a quite strong group, which I believe could depart from a legal framework. However, this is a problem between leaders, and we hope that the party will act within legal parameters.

[Unidentified reporter] Why is it that there are differences between two members of one party?

[Sotelo] It seems to be a matter of time and place, problems of a personal nature, but I think that those in the other group have not meditated about the issue as deeply as they should; they have not seriously analyzed what would happen if the Conservative Party does not act within the party's legal framework, especially now.

[Unidentified reporter] [Words indistinct] due to ideological differences?

[Sotelo] No, there are no ideological differences. We approve of democratization for Nicaragua. We hope for both Western and Christian democracy; a representative and republican democracy. All conservatives agree on this, including those who rebel, such as those opposing the legitimate authorities of the party. However, this situation has only affected the party's leadership. The rank and file are currently united and should be consulted. This is what should be done; they should be consulted so that they can decide whether the party will remain within a legal framework or whether it will do otherwise.

APPOINTMENT OF NEW MILITIA LEADERS ANNOUNCED

PA261822 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 25 Feb 84

[Text] Brigade Commander Francisco Rivera was appointed national commander of the Sandinist People's Militia yesterday, in accordance with instructions issued by Defense Minister Commander Humberto Ortega Saavedra, head of the militia. Lieutenant (Oscar Mojica) was named deputy chief of the militia's national leadership structure, while Francisco Ramirez was retained as the militias' inspector general.

ARMY INTELLIGENCE CHIEF JULIO RAMOS ON CONTRAS

FL251730 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1830 GMT 23 Feb 84

[By Guillermo Zamora]

[Text] Managua, 23 Feb (NOTIMEX) -- Commander Julio Ramos, chief of intelligence of the Nicaraguan Army, stated here today that the Sandinist government is not endangered by the counterrevolution but that, paradoxically, it is endangered by the failure of the counterrevolution to win.

U.S. State Department officials have stated that the counterrevolutionaries are incapable of defeating the Sandinists. Here is where there is a latent danger because this situation might lead to direct intervention in Nicaragua by the U.S. Marines, Commander Ramos said.

This high military officer commented that at the present time there are three main counterrevolutionary groups: the Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN), which operates from Honduras and receives most of its support from the United States; the MISURA group, headed by Steadam Fagoch [name as received], which operates inside Nicaragua along the Atlantic coast; and the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (ARDE), headed by Eden Pastora, which Commander Ramos described as the least stable group because of the temperament of its leader.

Ramos said that among the counterrevolutionary forces operating within Nicaragua are the Nicarao, Quiche, Jorge Salazar, Rafaela Herrera, and Andres Castro groups, all of which, he added, received aid from the United States through the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA).

The Sandinist commander commented that, in spite of this backing, in 1983 the Nicaraguan Army killed 1,800 counterrevolutionaries and wounded 370. So far this year it has killed 300 and wounded 150.

Predicts U.S. Involvement

PA262002 Managua International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 26 Feb 84

[Text] The U.S. Army's support for the Honduran Armed Forces in any military adventure against Nicaragua would involve logistics, communications, supplies, information, general staff assistance, and electronic espionage, according to Commander Julio Ramos. The Sandinist People's Army's chief of military intelligence added that in due time the United States would increase its direct participation by involving U.S. infantry and airborne troops. Along with these statements, published by the Mexican newspaper EL DIA, Ramos declared that Nicaragua is prepared to face the situation. The United States might make some progress, but it would be stopped in the end, Commander Ramos stressed.

FDN PEACE PLAN ASKS REMOVAL OF SANDINIST JUNTA

PA260444 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1730 GMT 25 Feb 84

[Text] Frank Arana, our correspondent in Costa Rica, gives us the following information:

[Begin direct relay] Directly and exclusively for Radio Impacto, the most important radio station in Central America, this is information from Honduras. The Nicaraguan Democratic Force [FDN], following a lengthy study of all the factors involved in the national historic reality and the current problems, is responsible for finding a solution to the civil war in Nicaragua and for establishing peaceful coexistence, in democracy and freedom, for all Nicaraguans.

In this communique, which we will read through Radio Impacto, the FDN addresses the Nicaraguan Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction and asks the Contadora Group foreign ministers to consider the following statement at their 27 February meeting.

The communique reads: The Nicaraguan conflict that threatens the political, economic, and social status of Central America is due to internal factors and extracontinental aggression and, at the same time, is the immediate cause of the regional crisis. A bloody armed struggle that has cost many lives is being waged in Nicaragua, making the search for peaceful solutions an unavoidable task, as was noted by the OAS in June 1979. To stop further bloodshed and to avoid prolonging a conflict that is affecting peace on the continent, we propose the following peace and national conciliation plan -- based on the resolution issued by the (?17th) consultative meeting of the OAS foreign ministers -- which will facilitate a lasting and peaceful solution to the Nicaraguan problem. This plan reads as follows:

1. The immediate replacement of the Sandinist regime.

2. Installation of a provisional, democratic, and national conciliation government in Nicaragua, formed by the main democratic representative groups that oppose the Somozist and Sandinist regimes and that reflect the free will of the Nicaraguan people.

3. Guarantees for the respect of human rights of all Nicaraguans without exception.

4. A truly free electoral process within 1 year, with established guarantees that will ensure the free voting process under the supervision of a group of countries -- like the Contadora group -- and institutions like the OAS and the UN.

For the initiation and implementation of this plan it is essential to have a climate of complete freedom and guarantees for the exercise of the rights of the citizens. To ensure this situation the following measures must be adopted:

1. Immediate withdrawal of foreign military and security forces: Cuban, Soviet, Bulgarian, North Korean, Palestinian, East German, and so forth, that have truly become an occupation army in Nicaragua. Also, the withdrawal of all international mercenaries involved in public affairs, including all those Nicaraguans naturalized since 19 July 1979.

2. The immediate separation from the Sandinist Army and other repressive corps of individuals responsible for crimes against the people and against mankind.

3. Suspension of the state of emergency that represses the civilian and political rights of Nicaraguans.

4. Promulgation of a real amnesty law for political crimes and common crimes related to political activities.

5. The abolition of laws that violate human rights, such as Decree 48, the Communications Media Law; Decree 1327, the Patriotic Military Service Law; Decrees 759 and 760, which violate the rights of private property; and others.

6. The abolition of laws that restrict the freedom of unions; the establishment of the right to strike, group contracts, and respect for the international agreements signed by Nicaragua.

7. The establishment of a state of law through the distribution of power to three independent and complementary organizations -- legislative, executive, and judicial.

8. The formation of state organizations as truly national organizations, devoid of all political and ideological sectarianism, and total separation of the Sandinist party from all political and military state organizations.

9. An end to the persecution and extermination of sectors of Nicaraguan people, especially that unleashed against the Miskitos, Sumos, and Ramas.

10. An immediate end to religious persecution and total separation of the state and the so-called people's church.

11. Repatriation of all Nicaraguans, with full guarantee of their rights as citizens.

12. Return of its full autonomy to the judicial branch.

13. Recognition of the fundamental statutes and of the statutes of rights and guarantees of Nicaraguans as a political constitution.

14. An end to the arms buildup, aggressions, and provocations against neighboring Central American republics.

The new provisional democratic and national conciliation government would carry out the government plan announced in July 1979, while the political parties, in open dialogue, would reach an agreement of unity and cooperation based on the Punto Fijo Pact signed in Caracas on 31 October 1958 by the Venezuelan parties Democratic Republican Union, Christian Social Party, and Democratic Action; on the declaration of principles and government programs signed by Romulo Betancourt, Rear Admiral Wolfgang Larrazabal, and Rafael Caldera on 6 December 1958; and other historic documents and agreements that established the basis for democracy in the sister country of Venezuela.

FDN would immediately accept an end to all its war activities if the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction and the FSLN's National Directorate immediately enforced the measures stated, and later, in a patriotic gesture, separated themselves from power and allowed the installation of the provisional democratic government of national conciliation.

Signed: Adolfo Calero Portocarrero, president of the National Directorate and commander in chief of the FDN [end direct relay]

ARDE MINES WATERS OFF BLUFF PORT, ISSUES WARNING

PA262030 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1952 GMT 26 Feb 84

[Text] Puntarenas, Costa Rica, 26 Feb (ACAN-EFE) -- The anti-Sandinist Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (ARDE) announced here today that it has mined the waters off the port of El Bluff on the Atlantic coast of Nicaragua. In a communique dated yesterday and issued in Sarapiqui, Nicaragua, the ARDE military organization, led by Eden Pastora (Commander Cero), warns that "ships that come close to El Bluff are in serious danger."

According to ARDE, the mines were placed by the "Special Barracuda Commando" on the night of 24 February to prevent the flow of arms and ammunition from Cuba to the Managua government. ARDE warns "Cuba and all internationalist interventionists" that, as of yesterday, it has declared the waters off the port of El Bluff, located 180 km north of the Costa Rican border, a war zone.

BRIEFS

AGREEMENTS WITH ARGENTINA -- Edmundo Jarquin, minister of the International Reconstruction Fund, FIR, and a member of the economic mission of the Nicaraguan Government of National Reconstruction, has signed important economic and technical cooperation agreements with the Argentine Government, which grant Nicaragua $45 million in credit and a food donation valued at $5 million. A commercial agreement that will allow tariff cuts on Nicaraguan exports to Argentina was also signed. [Summary] [Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 24 Feb 84 PA]

PARTY SECRETARY RESIGNS -- Julio Centeno Gomez' resignation as secretary general of the Constitutionalist Liberal Party has been accepted, according to party leader (Ignacio Miranda). (Miranda) said the resignation was caused by differences between Centeno and the party leadership. Dr (Mantina de Quintanilla) was appointed to replace Centeno Gomez. [Summary] [Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 23 Feb 84 PA]

15TH CONGRESS OF CENTRAL TRADE UNIONS CONCLUDES

Main Report Approved

FL241436 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1205 GMT 24 Feb 84

[Excerpts] After a lengthy discussion, the delegates to the 15th CTC [Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions] approved the main report presented by CTC Secretary General Roberto Veiga, as well as the reports issued by the seven working committees created at the congress. On the 4th day of the CTC meeting, there were special speeches by Comrade Armando Acosta Cordero, alternate member of the Politburo and coordinator of the CDRS [Committees for the Defense of the Revolution]; Jose Ramon Machado Ventura, member of the Polituburo; and Jose Ramirez Cruz, alternate member of the Politburo and president of the National Association of Small Farmers.

While the workers' meeting continued, hundreds of workers announced the completion of tasks to greet this meeting. This CTC session also included the presentation of candidates for the new CTC National Committee made up of 181 members.

[Begin Roberto Veiga recording] Comrade Fidel Castro, as you all know, was proposed as delegate to this congress spontaneously in almost all of the country's work centers and thus, responding to this proposal from the workers, he will exercise the right to vote in this congress. [applause] [end recording]

Castro Addresses Congress

FL242137 [Editorial Report] Havana Television Service in Spanish at 2056 GMT on 24 February carried live coverage of the closing session of the 15th Congress of the Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions [CTC], being held at the Lazaro Pena Auditorium of the CTC building. At 2100 GMT, the curtain was drawn and the dais was seen on the stage with high officials of the state, party, and CTC standing behind a long table. At 2103 GMT, CTC Secretary General Roberto Veiga invited Evaristo Baranda, a CTC labor leader, to read the 15th Congress' first resolution. Baranda, read the names of the members of the CTC Secretariat elected to serve. They are: Roberto Veiga, secretary general; Rene Penalver Valdes, second secretary; Rosario Fernandez Perera, member; Jesus Escandel Romero, member; Lazaro Dominguez Amador, member; Juan Iegues Almaguer, member; Francisco Castillo Falcon, member; Alfredo Morales Cartaya, member; Jose de Jesus Linares Valdes, member; Ramon Cardona Nuevo, member; Luis Martell Rosas, member; Noel Zubiaur Mir, member; Omar Mirabal Ferrera, member; and Alfredo Suarez Quintera, member.

After a prolonged round of applause, Veiga introduced Cuban President Fidel Castro, who began speaking at 2120 GMT.

Text of Speech

FL242159 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2120 GMT 24 Feb 84

[Speech by President Fidel Castro at the closing session of the 15th Congress of the Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions, CTC, held at the Lazaro Pena Aduitorium of the CTC building in Havana -- live]

[Text] Distinguished guests, comrades who are presiding over this meeting, delegates: I have had the privilege of participating in this congress and of listening not only to the main report but to the entire discussion of the report. It is not easy to close an event such as this. It would not be easy to collect the great wealth of ideas, concepts, and feelings expressed here.

I will try to give my opinions and to state my reflections concerning this historical event.

First, as many of you have said here, we have agreed that the main report was magnificent and that it explained the problems with a sense of self-criticism, clarity, and courage. We have agreed that the achievements we have made, that the difficulties that we face, and that the efforts we must make in the coming years were stated fairly, with optimism, and to everybody's satisfaction. The report was, however, not only excellent, but we feel that the intelligent and able way in which Comrade Veiga conducted the debates with absolute honesty, total respect for the democratic principles of the labor movement and the revolution [applause] was such that more than 100 delegates participated in the debates and we were forced to ask -- due to lack of time -- many comrades who had asked for the floor to give up their time because the 5 days of the congress would not have been time enough.

However, we believe that the basic issues were discussed and that any one of them was important enough for entire days of study. I am impressed -- I am sure that the other comrades of the leadership and party are also impressed -- with the level and quality of this congress, [applause] the seriousness and profound nature of the discussion, the clarity and precision of the statements, and their spontaneity and frankness.

We were impressed by many, we could say the majority, of the speeches made here. Some of them will be unforgettable.

All of us were very moved to listen to the young woman of the pasta and candy factory of Santiago de Cuba [applause] when she was telling us in humble, heartfelt words that she was born on 1 January with the triumph of the revolution. We couldn't help but feel touched by her words when she asked what her fate would have been without the revolution. [applause]

Her statement was a great satisfaction to all of us when we know that our revolution has eradicated so many defects and vices of the past and that now we can say that we are a nation without illiteracy, drugs, prostitution, gambling, exploitation, unemployment, poverty, hunger, children without shoes or abandoned, and that 100 percent of the human beings born during these past 25 years, those born now, and those who will be born will have every possibility of full physical and mental development and the enjoyment of the guarantee of a free and dignified life. [applause]

We were impressed by the speech made by Ignacito, as you all know him, [applause] because of the passion and love with which he spoke of his work. We were impressed by the leader of the Ciego de Avila varied crops enterprise [empresa de cultivos various de Ciego de Avila] who was telling us about the great achievements of in the past few years in yield per man, and productivity per caballeria, as well as the profitability of the enterprise.

We were also impressed by the comrade who told us about the extraordinary success of the rice mill in southern Jibaro and how from large losses in the past they have been able to increase production, reduce costs, and make the enterprise cost efficient.

We were impressed by the Santiago de Cuba comrade when she spoke about the efforts and successes in education in that eastern province. We were impressed by the comrade who spoke with great clarity and firmness about the effort made by the health sector in Santiago de Cuba, the excellent results of the model unit movement, and the effort necessary to spread this movement throughout the country with optimum quality.

We were impressed by the comrade of the merchant marine and port union of Santiago de Cuba when, with precise, clear, and eloquent statements, he stressed the magnitude and quality of this congress. [applause]

We were impressed by the innovators and efficiency experts with their explanations of the successes attained in that field. When they exhibited their scale models, representing impressive gains that have been attained with the sweat, honesty, intelligence, and selflessness of our workers, we were greatly impressed.

We were impressed by the million-mark canecutters, the two times million-mark brigades of Ciego de Avila, of Havana City Province, the Ernst Thaelmann brigade with its 3.5 million arrobas of cut cane. We were impressed by the tens of men and women who have marched in this congress with their chests covered with medals, honestly earned, which constitute a demonstration of labor achievements, making them workers worthy of a work olympiad. [applause]

We were impressed by the youths straining in the socialist camp with their achievements and advances, with their attitude, which we all witnessed. They forwarded to Cuba all their wages, totaling 500 pesos each. [applause] I asked them how they could make such a sacrifice, saying that I was worried about the effort that the sacrifice represented to them. At the personal level, what did it represent? They gave the following response: The people have sacrificed much more for us, and the revolution has done a lot more for us. [applause]

When we talked to them later on, one of the youths asked what he had to do to donate 500 pesos. Among them was a comrade who did not make a direct donation but, according to the CTC comrades, he was the one who had made the greatest contributions to the Territorial Troops Militia. [applause] We learned about this by chance, which demonstrates that next to the merit that we sometimes are able to observe, there are many other merits of which we do not even have the least knowledge. [applause]

With great emotion we listened to the speech by the enthusiastic and optimistic Comrade Lage, when he reported on the spirit of young workers, and how one third of our active work force is made up of young men, what their attitude is, how they behave, how they have learned from our working class, and how they pledge to be heirs and followers of their history and glories. [applause]

Lage also reminded us that our young students are also workers. Every year the students in the rural schools, polytechnic schools, preuniversity, and secondary schools participate in 7 consecutive weeks in field work. Thanks to this we can complete our tobacco harvest, as well as that of other important agricultural produce such as citrus fruits, vegetables, and so forth.

With emotion and optimism we listened to the always intelligent, calm, revolutionary and sweet words of Comrade Vilma Espin. [applause] She explained to us the advances made in this hard battle for the rights of women and the equality of women. She told us, ratifying the date from the main report, that 38.9 percent of the country's active labor force is made up of women. [applause] She said that it was hardly 30 percent at the time of the previous congress and that in certain provinces such as Havana City Province this percentage is approximately 44 percent. She was telling us that 53.9 percent of the country's technical force is made up of women. [applause] This is very important because it represents an advance not only in quantity, but particularly in quality.

We have had the opportunity to observe the behavior of women in many revolutionary activities. Once we said that when society learned to recognize and use the quality of women it would have unlimited possibilities. Studies have proven this. We saw this when we created the Carlos J. Finlay Medical Sciences Detachment. If we go strictly by the records, two of every three students are women, [applause] because they have better records, and they are more conscientious and studious. [applause] In this regard, because of an interest in developing public health and because of the internationalist missions which are being carried out in the health sector, we have come to the extreme of protecting men [laughter] and established a quota: 52 percent women, 48 percent men because we want them to be more or less equal [parejo] in the field of medicine, as doctors, and to a certain extent we want couples [parejas] who are doctors [play on the words parejo and parejas] so that when they have to fulfill a mission somewhere in the world [Fidel chuckles] or in any corner of our country, we can send a married couple. [applause] We have reached such an extreme that now we are going to begin worrying about equality for men. [laughter, applause]

We have been conducting studies observing the behavior of women, and Veiga explained to me that in the labor movement, despite the family obligations and tasks they have, women are more studious than men. [applause] We have observed that in the Territorial Militia Troops [applause] women are more disciplined and punctual than men. [applause] And if our fatherland ever had to defend itself from a direct imperialist attack, I am sure that women would never be inferior to men in combat. [applause] And if these facts are so evident and irrefutable, why aren't there more women in the leadership of the party, the state, and the mass organizations? [applause] This is not a whim or a simple slogan; it is logic. However, despite all this, we have not doubt that we are advancing in this terrain. [applause]

We heard here the vibrant ahd highly- colored [laughter] words of Comrade Armando Acosta. [applause] He spoke on behalf of that gigantic and combative organization, the CDRS [Committees for the Defense of the Revolution] [applause] which the imperialist enemy is so afraid of. Although we said yesterday to err -- Armando is calmer now [laughter], and Machadito was telling me. It is because he is reading a paper. [laughter] If he puts the paper down then he will stir the masses. [laughter] [paragraph as heard]

I was unable to hear the words full of the wisdom, honesty, and loyalty of our peasants expressed by Comrade Pepe Ramirez [applause] because I was absent from the afternoon session yesterday for a few minutes, but I read a copy of his speech in which he stated that to him the greatest success of the revolution among peasants was the enormous advance in their political and revolutionary awareness. At the same time he was telling us about the great and successful peak of the cooperative movement over the past few years. This cooperative movement now includes approximately 70,000 caballerias of land and thousands of peasants, and if I remember correctly, 27 percent of our women are cooperative members. In fact, this is pleasant news because we know its outlook and possibilities. The advance of the cooperative movement among our peasants is being methodically carried out, without haste and based on the most unrestricted respect for the principle of voluntary work [voluntariedad], which we feel is and will be the key to the success of this movement. If the present pace of this movement continues within the next 6 or 7 years almost 100 percent of peasant lands will work under cooperatives. Together with the state agricultural enterprises, this will allow us to intelligently predict that based on the agrarian reform law, whose 25th anniversary is being commemorated this year, our country's land as well as our industry will be completely socialized. [applause] What was explained here about agriculrure allows us to appreciate what these socialized lands, with the help of machinery and technology, can offer to our country.

We also heard, with emotion, the warm, fraternal, and loyal greeting of our glorious FAR. [applause]

We were unable to witness the Pioneers' greetings this morning, but the comrades who were present here told me that they were very warm and moving as is proper to children and youths who are being educated in the purest revolutionary principles and whom we are sure [applause] will make up -- amply and with achievements perhaps superior to ours -- the future revolutionary working class of Cuba. [applause]

Many problems have been discussed at this congress. They were problems that concerned workers, the revolution, and the life of our society, in our country as we as abroad, because the working class is the backbone and soul of our revolution. [applause]

The world is unfortunately experiencing one of the worst economic crises of the past 50 years. This crisis is basically scourging the Third World countries which are carrying the main burden imposed by the developed capitalist countries. But it is also considerably affecting the capitalist industrialized world, and to a lesser extent, the entire world economy. In other words, in a way it affects, indirectly and to a lesser degree, the socialist countries because of the interrelation of the world economy.

This crisis harshly affects all of Latin America. In 1982 there was a general drop in Latin America's economic production. In 1983 there was a drop of about 3 percent. What a contrast between the news we received from the Third World and the news from the industrialized capitalist countries. What a contrast between the news received from the rest of Latin America and our country's situation. What we read in the news dispatches deals with growing hunger, growing unemployment, social insecurity, illiteracy, lack of sanitation, social and political instability, and all types of problems. What a contrast with the situation in our country.

While there they talk about high percentages of illiterates, not only tens of millions of children without schools, but illiterate adults. What a big difference compared to our studies and discussions. Here we have learned that not long ago we overcame the battle for a sixth grade education, and that the 1985 goal to have half a million workers with a ninth grade education already has 583,000 workers who have graduated from or are registered in the ninth grade. [applause] Over there they have millions and millions of illiterates and here we have hundreds of thousands, millions with a ninth grade education. We are not including the university students whose number exceeds more than 200,000, or the superior level students, or the hundreds of thousands of qualified workers, intermediate level technicians who have a ninth grade education or more. We are speaking about the remainder of the workers in the country. What a contrast!

We hear news about growing unemployment of 15 percent, 20 percent, 25 percent of the active work force in Latin America, and here in this labor congress the word unemployed has not been mentioned once. [applause] Our problem is not unemployment, our problem is that in many regions of our country we need more workers. We discussed it was proper to bring workers from the eastern part of the country to work in construction projects in Havana, while there were a number of the so-called interrupted [interruptos]. What was being discussed here was not an unemployment problem, but how to attain greater productivity, how to attain a greater agricultural production, a greater profitability, how to introduce efficiency measures and innovations, how to introduce machinery, how to get greater production from each canecutter, how to get each machine to produce more, that the canecutting brigades will become millionaire brigades, that the cane harvester brigades will become millionaires, that the rice brigades will become millionaires; the same with those who pick coffee beans, the same with those caring for hens, the same with those picking citrus fruits, that they will all become millionaires. [prolonged applause]

We do not speak here about unemployment. We speak about productivity. We well know that in the rest of the underdeveloped countries in the Third World and Latin America, no one can talk about machinery because it implies unemployment, because it means profit for the capitalist and harm to the worker. Here all the people understand, all the workers understand that machinery means benefits for the people and harm for no one. [applause] The greater the productivity, the greater the technology, the more production for the people, and the more benefits for the people. [applause]

That problem can be noted not only in the underdeveloped world, but it can be noted most significantly in the developed capitalist world. The problem is that the need for introducing technology and modern systems in industry goes against the workers' interest. But unemployment is not the exclusive topic of the Third World, it is increasingly the topic of conversation in the developed capitalist countries. In Western Europe, at this time the worst plague is unemployment, which amounts to millions in each country. Some of these countries have recorded 18 percent unemployment and many of them more than 10 percent. What a contrast, what a difference compared with the situation in our country!

In a congress such as this we display our gains when we say that if in 1970 there were 350,000 canecutters in the sugar harvest; today we have 85,000. Has this represented a tragedy for any worker in the country? No.

The main report noted the meaning of the benefits to provinces, mainly provinces such as Matanzas, Camaguey, Ciego de Avila, and Las Tunas, which every year had to mobilize more voluntary canecutters -- in each province -- than the total of canecutters being used today. What a contrast between the benefits which this reduction implies for our people. We have dropped from 350,000 canecutters to 85,000 and complete larger harvests. Many of these canecutters have now become harvester operators and others have gone to work in the areas of construction, industry, or others. These are the advantages of a socialist and planned economy. [applause]

We need more hands. Why have the Moa workers decided to make a special effort to reach certain goals? I am talking about the Moa construction workers. Well, they need thousands of workers, but they have reached agreements which mean that their efforts will represent the work done by 2,000 more workers. We also need workers in Cienfuegos, Havana City, and Havana Provinces. We need workers everywhere.

The evil plague of unemployment disappeared from our country a long time ago. What a contrast between our children who are all going to school, are being clothed and well fed, and the panorama we see in the rest of Latin America, the Third World, and even in developed capitalist countries. What a contrast between the social insecurity of the masses and the social security which our workers and people have. What a contrast between the stability of Cuba and the widespread instability on other continents. What a contrast between the news received on the health status of Latin America and the Third World and the health status in our country: to know that we have reduced infant mortality to approximately 17 percent for every 1,000 children born and that we have raised life expectancy to 74 and no doubt we will continue to raise it. [applause]

It was very pleasant to hear the representatives of the workers of Nuevita talk about their new hospital and their progress in schools, houses, and industries. It was very pleasant to hear the comrades of Sancti Spiritus talk about their new hospital, the pride of that province. It was very pleasant to hear about the new clinical-surgical hospital of Manzanillo. It was very pleasant to hear about the successes of the clinical-surgical hospital in Villa Clara. I am sure that dozens of delegates here could have mentioned other hospitals and new hospitals.

In future congresses, we will continue to listen to good news and about new children's hospitals, clinical-surgical hospitals, and polyclinics of all kinds. We are sure that we will hear news about the success of emulation in the health sector. We are sure that we will hear news about the success of model units in the area of health because we have not limited our successes to one area of the economy.

While we were talking with some foreign visitors, we told them that despite the imperialist brigade and its constant conspiracy against our economy, despite sabotage activities which even reached the extent of introducing plagues and diseases to plants and human beings, our economy in 25 years has grown at an average rate of 4.7 percent. We told them how in the past year, despite the winter storms, we achieved 5-percent growth and are getting ready for a similar growth in 1984. We told them how our budget has no deficit and what we hear about budget deficits -- beginning with the United States which has a $200 billion deficit, and continuing with almost all capitalist countries, and, of course, the Third World Countries.

Our enemies have not dared deny our successes in the fields of health, education, sports, culture, etc. But they do dare question our successes in the field of the economy, one of the areas where we have made the greatest progress. If we had not made progress in the field of the economy, not only with an increase in productivity, with an economic, industrial, and agricultural development, but also with respect to better trade relations and our ties with socialist countries. [sentence as heard] We have recorded impressive gains in the economy, which explains how nearly 600,000 workers can work in only two spheres, education and health. [applause]

How could we maintain our schools and hospitals, and keep our people well fed and well dressed and with shoes on if we had not attained those successes in the economic field? But if they feel that our successes in education and health have been good, then they had better get ready to observe our progress in those two fields in the next 15 or 20 years. [applause] Let them be ready for that! We will virtually be able to tell all the capitalist countries, virtually all countries, in the next 15 or 20 years, not only will we be in first place among Third World countries, but we will be above you all. [applause]

And we can already say that to some of them. We can also tell them: In education, not only do we hold the first place among Third World countries, we are above you. [applause] That is the progress we are making. That is very important for our workers, to have that conviction, to have that security, to have that peace of mind, to have that happiness.

The elements are present. When we began, we had nothing. There was almost 30 percent illiteracy in the health area [as heard]. We did not even have teachers to send to the mountains, to the rural areas. In order to eradicate illiteracy, we had to have the students become teachers. Today we have 250,000 professors and teachers. Naturally, all of them are working and studying. We have 47,000 of them studying. Of the 250,000 teachers, 107,000 are taking advancement courses, conducting studies at various levels. A total of 19,000 primary school teachers are currently studying at the university to obtain their primary school credentials. In another 15 to 20 years, primary school will be taught by people who have obtained their degrees and have graduated from the universities. [applause]

We have a veteran army of young professors and teachers, that is, an army of young veterans, who have gained much experience in recent years, when we had to improvise a teaching staff, form the educational detachment, and use much imagination to face the influx of students in the primary and mid-level grades. Now we have that force, because we practiced the principle mentioned here.

Companero Valdivia was among those who said it: The important thing, the essential thing, even more important than the equipment, the technique, or the laboratories is the man, the teacher, the doctor, and his attitude and behavior. If we are aware that we are instilling in those teachers and doctors an increasingly revolutionary spirit, what doubt can we harbor as to what we will achieve in the area of education in the next few years?

The same can be said about the medical field. We have already said this on previous occasions: We began our health plans with only 3,000 doctors, because of the 6,000 doctors that were here, half went to the United States. The others remained. That is how we began, yet today we are in first place in the Third World and ahead of several developed countries. Today we have almost 20,000 doctors. In the next 16 years, we will graduate an additional 50,000 doctors. And what doctors! [applause] What doctors, what quality, based on the selection we are making on the basis of their records and vocation, among pre-university level youths. Then there are also the qualifications, the norms, the programs. So important in this regard is what was mentioned here yesterday about the special attention that both the doctors and instructors in the teaching hospitals must give to the students who make up the Carlos J. Finlay Detachment, whose first contingent will begin its 3d year with the next course and will enter the hospitals. Let us take care of them; let us make demands on them; let us pay attention to them; let us instill in them the best virtues of our working people and the revolutionary spirit of our workers, our youth, and our internationalists. We will see whether or not we can become what has been called a medical power. [applause]

We have already (?started) with the famiy doctor. This is something new. We have begun with 10 of them in Luyano neighborhood [words indistinct]. We already have the first 10 doctors and nurses. We are testing this concept: A doctor and a nurse will provide direct care to 120 families, acting as protectors of their health, in addition to the entire health care network, which will provide support for their work whenever they need an X-ray or a laboratory test at a clinic, or whenever a patient has to be hospitalized.

I was recently talking to these 10 doctors and, frankly, to me they looked like pre-university students. They were really very young, these six women and four men. [laughter] Six women [words indistinct], that is, six women doctors, and four male doctors.

According to the reports we have, the results are encouraging. In many places they are already asking when the program will be conducted there. That is mostly a workers' neighborhood. Next year, we will go to some cooperatives and agricultural communities. This experimental plan will be implemented in all the provinces, and even in some schools and factories. In the future, we will have a doctor in every factory, right along with the workers, [applause] in every school with a qualifying enrollment, and in the every community. Right now this means guaranteed employment for 20,000 doctors and 20,000 nurses, to the extent that the test we are conducting succeeds. We must add that no other country has implemented this system to complement the network of clinics and hospitals. According to my estimates, of these 40,000 doctors and nurses, at least 30,000 will be women. If half the doctors are women in addition to the nurses, of the 40,000 three fourths will be women. Work is currently underway in the area of scientific research, at the medical research centers, and in many fields. This will enable us to guarantee the goals of the revolution.

At a recent meeting with the education cadres of Cuba's western provinces, we defined their goal. We will not call it educational power; we will label it something else. However, we will struggle to hold a top position in the area of education. We have said as much to the teachers.

We have also talked about cultural power. The delegates who spoke here on behalf of the cultural and artistic sector expressed their confidence that we can and must become a power in this field as well.

We must also continue struggling in the field of athletics, where we are already ranked in the world's top 10, developing it systematically.

However, there is no doubt that in the areas of health and education -- the areas important to our enemies -- we will be political champions, gold medal winners, in another 15 to 20 years. [applause]

It is also encouraging to see the effort that is currently being made to develop new and important industrial projects. With the cooperation of the Soviet Union, we are constructing the first electronuclear plant. It is not being built by a foreign company; it is being built by a Cuban construction company. Thousands of workers are involved. It is a complex and difficult project. Naturally, it is the first one that we are constructing, and such tasks require a high level of quality that we could not accomplish without the cooperation of our Soviet brothers. [applause] We will have several hundred Soviet technicians and welders there working alongside thousands of Cuban workers. I am sure, however, that for reactor three and reactor four, and for the second electronuclear plant, there will be many Cuban welders accomplishing those tasks. [applause]

We are going to have the cooperation of the Bulgarian Brigade [applause], which more than 20 years ago did me the honor of becoming my namesake. This had much significance, because it was before the triumph of the revolution, while we were still in the mountains. [applause]

They have already helped us and will continue to help us with their brigade and, as the head of the brigade put it; Mr Minister, it has 82 members, the same number of men who were on the Granma expedition. [applause] If this is the way it will be, with help from the Soviets and Bulgarians, the Granma of Juragua, where the nuclear center is being built, will also have its 1 January. [applause]

A large refinery is being built in this same region of Cienfuegos. Yesterday, we were saying that by the end of the year we plan to dedicate one large nickel plant, and we are already building a second large nickel plant. Other important projects are under construction. In western Havana, there is the new thermoelectric plant that will have a capacity of 1,200 megawatts. There is the thermoelectric plant at Matanzas, the enlargement of the thermoelectric plant at Nuevitas, and the new thermoelectric plant in northern Oriente, in addition to the sugar-processing plants and dozens of other industrial projects that are under construction or on which construction is about to begin.

There is quite a development program. We are already working on the next 5-year plan, and we are working on a long-range plan. We already have a general idea of what we are going to do in the next 15 years, that is, up to the year 2000. There is no need to become impatient, the year 2000 will be here soon. Just note how quickly these 25 years of revolution have passed! We speak now not of 25 years, but of 15. [applause]

The outlook is truly promising. We should not be such staunch CTC members [tan cetecistas] as to believe that no difficulties will crop up. Difficulties of one kind or another can always crop up. A plague might hit us, like others have, either because of natural causes, or because the enemy introduces it. We do not have the slightest doubt that several plagues that have hit us were introduced by imperialism.

This is why when the resolution on Decree 56 was being discussed a very accurate analysis was made. A correct solution must be found for the problem of laid off workers. We will have to review this law, but we must not renounce its principles under any circumstances. We must not renounce anything that provides guarantees for the workers [applause], if a problem such as that which appeared at the tobacco factory were to surface, for example.

We must find a way to eliminate the trials [juicios] that might have come about as a result of this law. We must view what modifications it needs, how to enforce it. We must look at the characteristics of each chapter, what should be done in specific cases, and how to effectively reduce the problem of the laid off workers, because there always will be laid off workers. This is a subject that has been brought up at this congress. We are compelled to look into it, with the aim of retaining the virtues of the law and eliminating the vices that might stem from it. [applause] The situation is not the same, for example, in a textile factory that runs out of raw material. It is difficult for that worker to promptly find another job by herself after she is laid off.

The situation is also different in the construction field. It has been mentioned here that with the increased availability of construction material some 60,000 homes are being built independently each year. Logically, a bricklayer or a carpenter is in great demand now. If a bricklayer or carpenter is laid off for one reason or another he will immediately find a new job, perhaps even with another worker who has saved some money and has been able to purchase the material to build a home independently. This can be detrimental to large industrial projects, or to important hospital or school projects that we are carrying out. This problem can appear especially in Havana, where we have the most difficulties in the construction field.

An explanation was given here of the reasons for laid off workers, but I would like to say that the situation is not the same in all cases, and therefore we should analyze each case individually and seek to apply a resolution in the most effective manner. We have accurately interpreted the concerns expressed about this problem, and know that it is our duty to resolve them.

I have spoken of the great, magnificent outlook for the country, but this does not mean that we should believe that everything will run very smoothly and without any problems. We must always predict problems as much as we are able to and never dismiss the possibility that they will occur.

I believe that our achievements should give us great encouragement. Here is a list, for example, of all that has been saved. One of the topics in the central report and at the Congress was what we have saved in fuel in the past few years. This is an impressive example of improved efficiency. To cite the case of the sugar industry, according to the central report, 430,000 tons of petroleum were consumed in 1979, but only 23,000 were consumed in 1983. This is one-twentieth of the 1979 figure. What an effort it represents by the workers, technicians, cadres, and the administration; an effort by all to be able to reduce by such a large margin the use of petroleum in the production of crude. [as heard]

Last year a savings of 500,000 tons of petroleum was made, and this meant a great deal to our economy. As the central report explained, 200 million pesos were saved in supplies alone, as well as 50 million in raw materials.

The asset of having profitable enterprises was also discussed, as was the effort made toward making all enterprises profitable, with the exception of those that it is felt should be subsidized due to economic policies. So we will make profitable all the enterprises that can be made profitable, which means a majority of them.

We spoke about the advances achieved in the organization of our work. The minister who is president of the work committee fully explained the efforts that have been made and that will be made in this field. We have made important achievements, but we cannot remain idle. We discussed, for example, the problem of the double school session. It was rightfully said that the workers were worried about this. This is logical because the number of working women and mothers has increased, and they have problems with their children. The youths are in class in the morning and on the streets in the afternoon. I passed by Vedado Street, meditating on what was said during the meeting, at approximately 2100. I found a group of youngsters there, playing ball -- or something else -- in the center of the street. I thought to myself, this will surely not be solved by the double school session. [laughter] This was not 1500 or 1600, it was 2100 and they were on the street. However, there is no doubt that the double session would represent a great benefit for all our workers and improve the quality of our education.

We face an uneven situation. The place with the most students in a double session this school year is the city of Havana. It has 91.1 percent of its students in double session. Then there is the province of Matanzas, which has 86.5 percent in double session in primary school. Our goal is to establish a double session in urban primary and secondary schools. I am not talking about rural secondary schools, which have another system. The province of Havana has 71.5 percent,Camaguey has 78.1 percent, Ciego de Avila has 55.1 percent, and Pinar del Rio has 40.4 percent. I forgot to mention the magnificent news that the people in Pinar del Rio gave us regarding their initiative [applause] on education, the 25 primary aspects and the 30 secondary aspects [applause]. And I believe this experience should be implemented everywhere. They have 40.4 percent enrolled in double session. I already mentioned Camaguey, which has 78.1 percent.

Our concern is the provinces which have the least. Sancti Spiritus is not the least; it has 36.1 percent. However, we have Santiago de Cuba with 22.6 percent. Due to the 25th anniversary we appropriated certain resources to Santiago de Cuba to see if within a short period, 2 or 3 years, it can raise the number of students in double session to the levels we have in Havana. We also have Holguin, with 18.2 percent, Granma with 16.7 percent, Guantanamo with 11.7 percent, and Las Tunas with 10.9 percent. In other words, there is a great disproportion among the provinces.

Of course, we are happy that the city of Havana has 91.1 percent, because there are more problems with traffic and accidents, and other normal problems for the teenagers living in a large city. However, the figure shows the need to make a great effort toward improving the use of the double session, mainly in the provinces which have fallen behind. We will have to include this in our annual plans to see how quickly we can start implementing the system in these provinces, mainly in Guantanamo, Granma, Holguin, and Las Tunas.

As for Santiago de Cuba, I already explained that certain resources have been designated for it. I also forgot to mention -- you will excuse me -- the small companeros in the Isle of Youth. [shouts and applause] I forgot them because they are so far developed in terms of a double session and schools. They have 91.9 percent; they rank first in our country. [applause]

We have enough teachers -- I gave you the figures -- and we have all the possibilities. It is simply a matter of locales, installations. We will see if we can bring good news to the next congress regarding this struggle of the double session.

Another matter that requires a special effort this year, and which I wish to discuss with the congress so that we are all aware of it and can make maximum efforts to overcome it. is the sugar harvest. We are late with the sugar harvest. There are some 200-odd million arrobas less. Man is not at fault fot this. There have been great organization and efforts. We have had some industrial problems in certain provinces, we have had weather problems -- not heavy rains, torrential rains, or floods like last year, which not only damaged the sugar harvest but almost destroyed the tobacco, tomato, and potato harvest. Fortunately, we have not had this problem, but we have had persistent rains almost since the start of the harvest -- in some provinces more than others. In some provinces the rains delayed the start of the grinding process, in others they stopped it entirely, and they have been generally disrupting the harvest.

Not only the cutting and transportation of the sugar cane have been affected, but yields have been affected as well. Yields were 1 point lower, not 1 percent less, but 1 percentage point less. In other words, when it should have amounted to 11, it totaled 10. This has affected the sugar production so that in relation to the plan, we have a deficit of 423,000.2 tons of sugar. This was as of 20 February. Frankly, our magnificent situation this year and the assuredness with which the economy is operating might be seriously affected if the sugar plans are not fulfilled, because all this sugar has already been sold. At this point, we have a deficit of almost .5 million tons of sugar. I have presented this problem here because in view of this situation, the sugar cane harvest demands special effort and attention during the remaining days of February -- which are few now -- and in March and April, so as not to go too far into spring. The effort that the people of Holguin have made in recent days due to this congress must be imitated by the entire country in the next 2 and 1/2 months [applause]. This is essential if we are going to recover from this deficit. We have the sugarcane. Now it must be cut, transported, and ground.

These are the deficit figures: Pinar del Rio, 3,700; Havana, 35,100; Matanzas, 35,900; Villa Clara, 17,000; Cienfuegos, 32,000; Sancti Spiritus, 30,800; Ciego de Avila, 65,000; Camaguey, 94,200; Las Tunas, 41,000; Holguin, 41,200; Granma, 10,300; Santiago de Cuba, 21,100. Paradoxically, in Guantanamo, the smallest sugarcane producing province, where there hasn't been much rain, where there hasn't really been any rain, they have surpassed their goal by 4,200 this year. [applause] It wasn't in vain that the people of Guantanamo spoke of conducting an efficient sugarcane harvest. This was their purpose. And it must be the purpose of all of the country's sugarcane producing provinces. [applause] Naturally, the companeros of Camaguey must make the greatest effort, because their harvest was delayed 1 week due to the rains. The deficits that we mught have in the sugarcane harvest can cause us considerable damage. I think that we will confront these difficulties and will make the necessary effort. [applause]

As I said earlier, if one compares Cuba's situation with that of many other countries, our prospects are truly good, even in the midst of this catastrophic international economic crisis. However, the world is not only experiencing an economic crisis. There is also a serious political crisis. We said it on the occasion of our 25th anniversary: This entire economic situation brings marked political and social instability to almost every part of the world.

To Yankee imperialism one would have to say: If you don't want any broth, you will get three bowls of it. [laughter] They don't want revolution, but they are starving the world. The U.S. Government is mainly responsible for this crisis. The Third World's debt totals 830 billion dollars. The interests are huge. Latin America's debt totals 350 [billion].

The representatives of 30 Latin American and Caribbean nations met recently in Quito, where they drafted a document containing harsh political and economic wording. We regard this declaration as a type of rebellion by the various governments in the face of untenable situations related to the huge debt and the high interest rates, the protectionist policies implemented by the industrialized capitalist countries, and the unresolvable problems that are being created. Logically, hunger engenders instability and revolutions.

As we said recently in an interview, Cuba does not want to export revolution, but the United States cannot prevent it. Who could create the conditions for revolution? If anyone creates these conditions, it is imperialism with its policy of exploitation, with its economic policy. Almost simultaneously with the Quito Declaration, former FRG Chancellor Helmut Schmidt in Europe publicly declared at a gathering of personalities in Brussels something very significant: He said that the U.S. economic policy, with its huge budget deficits and its high interest rates, is so selfish that for the Western world it implies greater danger than the Soviet threat.

Just imagine what it means for a former FRG foreign minister to make such a statement when so many lies have been told, so much slandering has been done about the alleged Soviet danger, or Soviet threat, to justify the arms race and the warmongering policy of imperialism. The fact that a prominent Western leader has said that this policy is even more dangerous than the Soviet threat means quite a lot.

The countries feel strangled, not only the Latin American and Third World countries, but many developed capitalist countries and U.S. allies as well. That is the truth. All this increases unemployment, budget deficits, inflation, economic recession, and the like. That is, there is not only an economic crisis but also a political crisis in the world. There is an unleashed arms race; hundreds of thousands of millions are invested in military spending amid this economic crisis. There is a real danger of war; an imperialist policy that is growing in aggressiveness, which is evident to us from the news we read daily; deployment of nuclear weapons in Europe carried out to provoke the Soviet Union and the socialist countries; a shameful and open intervention in Nicaragua with the use of Somozists and reactionary bands; a growing participation in the genocidal war that the Salvadoran reactionary government is waging against the Salvadoran people; intervention in Lebanon; and the wretched and cowardly crime, committed in the tiny country of Grenada and against the small population of Grenada -- small in number but morally very big. [applause] We could even describe it as the tiny state of Grenada.

This has taught us more than any book or conference can teach us about imperialism and what can be expected of it. It is characterized by a treacherous, dishonest, selfish, and aggressive policy that we have not hesitated to describe -- at certain times -- as fascist. All this has considerably increased tensions in the world and the dangers of a war -- regional war or a major nuclear world war. These are realities we cannot forget for a single moment.

The realities that we have mentioned here have compelled us to make a huge effort and to invest much in defense. Even before this reactionary and fascist administration took over in the United States, we were working intensely on strengthening the country's defenses. We recalled how on 1 January 1979 we made the first call for the organization of the territorial militia units. Following this call some 600,000 men and women mobilized, the necessary cadres were organized and trained to direct these forces, and the necessaary weapons were purchased. We include the reserves in these 600,000. We also purchased weapons for 500,000 militiamen.

On 26 July we made a second call for another 500,000 men and women to join the territorial militia units. We can announce that we already have in our country the weapons for this other half million men and women [applause], and should we find it necessary, we will continue putting forth every effort to strengthen our defense and prepare our country against any attack. We would not hesitate to make a third call and find the weapons for this third group of militiamen -- we can no longer say men and women but must say women and men [applause] -- because in the second contingent, of every four combatants, three are women. [applause]

Parallel to this we have made great efforts to increase the fighting capacity of our Armed Forces. The efforts of our companeros in the military sector, involved in organizing, training, and supplying the territorial militia units with cadres, have been enormous.

The idea of creating the Territorial Troops Militia, MTT, was strongly supported by our people, especially our workers. We must note the annual contribution of the workers to help defray the expenses incurred by the MTT, which add up to approximately 20 million pesos a year. This year's congress has delivered a check for more than 20 million pesos. [applause]

Not a minute is wasted by our party's directorate when it comes to the country's defense. I understand that some delegations who have noticed the unity of our people, the enthusiasm of our workers, the spirit of this congress, and the total and indivisible unity of our party and people, commented that in order for the United States to invade Cuba, it would be necessary to kill all the Cubans first. [applause, chanting]

However, in reality it would be impossible to kill an entire people, and since our people will not sit back and let themselves be killed [applause], and since before dying our people would kill millions of Yankee soldiers [changing and rhythmic applause], millions of soldiers that imperialism does not have because it is involved in many adventures throughout the world, there is not even the most remote possibility that our people can ever be defeated or that our land can ever be occupied. [applause]

As long as there is a man or a woman with a rifle in his or her hand, the struggle will continue in our country. [applause] This is something that the Yankee imperialits undoubtedly know: Not only Cuba, which has a large population, many years of experience, and much more military might, but even smaller countries like Nicaragua can never be occupied by the Yankee imperialists. [applause]

Sandino proved this many years ago, and by coincidence, the 50th anniversary of his death coincided with the second day of this congress. If the Yankees were to invade that country now, the Sandinists would also prove it to them. [rhythmic applause, chanting]

But it is not just Nicaragua. In El Salvador, where the number of revolutionaries is even smaller, and their military strength is more limited, the imperialists would not be able to solve, by means of intervention, the problem posed by the revolutionary struggle of the Salvadoran people. [applause] We are deeply convinced of this. That is why we are readying ourselves. If they believed that with their disgusting crime in Grenada they were going to weaken the Cuban revolution, they find that today, a few weeks after Grenada, the Cuban revolution is even stronger. [applause] If they believed that they were going to weaken the Nicaraguan revolution, they find that today, a few weeks after Grenada, the Nicaraguan revolution is even stronger. [applause] If they thought that they were going to weaken the revolutionary movement in El Salvador, they find that today the Salvadoran revolutionary movement is even stronger than before. [applause] Thus this heinous crime in Grenada will have served them no purpose other than to plunge their reputation deeper into the mire and to multiply the spirit, tenacity, will to fight, and revolutionary firmness of the revolutionaries. [applause]

Therefore, in the midst of the satisfaction, the joy, and the [word indistinct] that this congress leaves us, we must be aware of these realities, and must continue working more than ever to accomplish the goals of our production and defense slogans. [applause] May our mottos come out of this congress strengthened. [applause]

We would like to express to the misnomered foreign delegations -- because we regard them as our brothers -- [applause] our acknowledgement and deepest gratitude for having attended this congress.

In the atmosphere that has been created, I have often thought about the views, ideas, and opinions of many of our guests. In my view, this congress teaches us much about each other. What is the similarity between a workers' congress under socialism and a workers' congress under capitalism? Our brothers from the socialist countries have a lot of experience. I suppose our brothers from the capitalist countries must be surprised to see our workers, over 2,000 delegates, talking about productivity, profitability, reduction of production costs, increasing the quantity and quality of production, and increasing and improving services. That would be truly unusual in a society where there is an insurmountable contradiction between the capitalist owners of the means of production and of the wealth produced at the hands of hard-working and honest workers [applause], an insurmountable contradiction between the interests of the capitalists and those of the workers. That is also how our congresses were prior to the revolution: They were characterized by the unions' tireless struggle in defense of their interests, in opposition to those of the capitalist businessmen.

This is how it is today in the capitalist world: The labor movement defends its interests vis-a-vis the businessmen or the state-run companies, which were passed from the capitalists to the state after they were ruined so that the state could bear the losses. We know the problems and concerns of unions in the capitalist world. There must be a reason why capitalists seek to divide the labor movement. They are trying to divide it internationally. There must be some reason for the CIA and imperialism to work everywhere creating groups and trying to develop disruptive unions in order to divide the workers. This is an unending struggle that will never cease as long as the capitalist system exists.

It is amazing and strange to see a labor movement discussing the problems, issues, and interests discussed here. Everything is possible when the working class feels that it owns the means of production and the country's wealth! [sustained applause] Only then will the workers meet to discuss savings, productivity, profitability, and better services, for they will be their savings, their productivity, their profitability, their wealth, and their services. This is only possible under socialism. [applause] There is no solution, and there will never be, to our people's problems, to the Third World problems, or to modern society's problems without socialism. [applause]

We thank the invited delegations for providing us with this chance to show them in all honesty, sincerity, and fraternity what our country is like, what our revolution is like, what our people are like, and what our working class is like. [applause] We have discussed our economic, political, social, and defense problems at length in front of them, in total freedom and liberty.

In concluding this congress, we thank them for the privilege of having shared these last few days with the prestigious representatives of the international labor movement and with the representatives of hundreds of million of workers throughout the world. We thank them for the encouragement that this has given us and the hopes they leave with us, including the awareness that workers throughout the world should unite and remain closely united. [applause]

Just as we thank the dear invited delegations for this honor, we must also thank our workers, represented at this congress by over 2,200 delegates. We express our gratitude to them for the pride we feel after having observed the quality of this congress and their behavior. [applause] Fatherland or death, we will win! [shouts of "We will win!"] [applause]

Awards Ceremony

FL251618 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 25 Feb 84

[Text] The honorary title of Work Hero of the Republic of Cuba, Gold Work Star, and Order of Lazaro Pena, First Class were awarded for outstanding merit to 25 comrades in an emotive ceremony presided over by Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the party Central Committee, in the Cubanacan Protocol Hall. Army General Raul Castro, second secretary of the party Central Committee and FAR minister; Roberto Veiga, alternate member of the party Politburo and secretary general of the Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions [CTC]; and other party and government leaders were also present at the ceremony.

The Order of Lazaro Pena, First Grade, was also awarded to union leaders Agapito Figueroa, Ursinio Rojas, and Ricardo Rodriquez and to the GRANMA newspaper, party Central Committee organ, for its achievements over a period of more than ten years.

The Council of State awarded the Order of Lazaro Pena, Second Class, to the (Albert Kungs) cookie factory, the (Inajiro Asanoma) spinning mill, the Captain Orestes Acosta shop, Bayamo truck center, Salvador Allende Pedagogical School, and the Ministry of Foreign Trade. At the ceremony, Fidel and Raul presented the 15th CTC Congress emulation banner of the 17 national unions, the 14 provincial committees of the CTC, and the special municipality Isle of Youth.

INDICATIONS SEEN OF TROOP PULLOUT FROM ANGOLA

PA261537 Paris AFP in Spanish 1427 GMT 26 Feb 84

[By Pierre Cayrol]

[Text] Havana, 26 Feb (AFP) -- Cuba might withdraw its troops from Angola gradually and has begun to prepare national public opinion to that end, Western diplomats in Havana indicated today.

An article published by the official newspaper GRANMA that recently announced, with several days' delay, that talks would begin in Lusaka (Zambia) between Angola and South Africa in the presence of U.S. delegates drew the attention of observers in the Cuban capital.

The article, dated 21 February, did not shed any new light per se. On the contrary, it did not even mention the agreement that was reached between the parties (16 February) on the withdrawal of South African military troops from Angola. Observers, however, believe that this article is the beginning of a domestic information campaign intended to lay the groundwork for the progressive withdrawal of Cuban military troops from Angola.

To support this hypothesis, the observers, who lack official reports to that effect, cite certain admittedly minimal indicators. They note that it is exceptional for GRANMA, the official publication of the Communist Party of Cuba, to refer to these talks when many international events go unmentioned, either because they are not in keeping with Castroite orthodoxy or because they have the potential to create unexpected consequences.

In this context, the observers recall that Cuba completely ignored the contacts that Angola and South Africa established in Cape Verde in January 1983. They feel that this time, by announcing the beginning of the dialogue between the two countries, Havana is signaling an apparent belief in the future of these negotiations. This is given added emphasis, they add, by the fact that Cuba would like to participate because it is committed to the conflict militarily and since the United States will participate.

The GRANMA article that prompted this hypothesis presented the Lusaka talks as a clear victory for Angola with the headline: "South Africa Forced To Begin Talks With Angola on the Withdrawal of Its Troops From the Southeastern Part of That Country and the Independence of Namibia."

However, the article makes no mention of an eventual withdrawal of Cuban troops. After declaring -- citing the Angola press -- that the conciliatory U.S. attitude might be connected with the upcoming electoral campaign in that country, GRANMA states that the Lusaka talks are being held on the basis of conditions presented last year by Angolan President Jose dos Santos. They include the withdrawal of South African troops from Angolan territory, an end to the assistance given the UNITA guerrillas, total separation of the issue of the Cuban presence in Angola from that of Namibia's independence, and the application of UN Resolution 435, calling for the decolonization of that territory.

A U.S. diplomat in Havana believes -- or wants to believe -- that Cuba is isolated from the negotiations, and stresses that Oscar Oramas, Cuban vice minister of foreign affairs, who is responsible for Africa, traveled to South Africa last week.

Official Cuban sources have made no comment in this regard. Havana's position does not appear to have changed: It bases its actions on the joint Cuban-Angolan declaration of 4 February 1982, wherein it was established that the decision to withdraw the Cuban troops will be made "in a sovereign manner" and at the proper time, when all threats of aggression have disappeared.

Observers indicate that it is possible that a withdrawal of Cuban troops in Angola, even an incremental one, might be interpreted in Havana, and even in Latin America as a whole, as the failure of an operation that has exacted a high cost in terms of both money and human lives. They believe, however, that Havana is seeking an honorable way out and has thus begun to prepare public opinion to this end.

This is an hypothesis that must be viewed with considerable caution.

ORAMAS, TANZANIAN ENVOY ON UN NAMIBIA RESOLUTION

FL241939 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1925 GMT 24 Feb 84

[Text] Representatives of Cuba and Tanzania today demanded the fulfillment of the UN Security Council resolution on Namibia's independence. The two countries reaffirmed their solidarity with Namibia's liberation struggle during talks held in Dar es Salaam by Tanzania's Foreign Minister Salim Ahmad Salim and Cuban Vice Foreign Minister Oscar Oramas.

FAR COMMEMORATES SOVIET ARMY, NAVY DAY

FL241545 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 23 Feb 84

[Text] The FAR's main event to greet the 66th anniversary of the creation of the USSR Army and Navy was held this morning at the Soviet Internationalist Soldier Mausoleum.

In speaking at the event, Brigade General Francisco Cruz Bourzac stressed the importance of the creation of the Soviet Armed Forces, described them as the first army of workers and peasants in the world, and emphasized the brotherhood which unites Soviets and Cubans.

As part of the event, a group of Soviet military specialists received the Internationalist Combatant Medal, Second Class, as a well deserved recognition by the Cuban people and state of the help they have given to strengthen the defensive capacity of our country.

The ceremony was attended by Lieutenant General Vladimir Shatalov, president of the Soviet-Cuban Friendship Society; Konstantin Katushev, the Soviet ambassador to Cuba; Division General Ulises Rosales del Toro, FAR vice minister, chief of the General Staff, and member of the party's Central Committee; and Division General Raul Menendez Tomassevich, FAR vice minister for the MTT [Territorial Militia Troops] and member of the party's Central Committee.

CARLOS RAFAEL RODRIGUEZ RECEIVES LIMA MAYOR

FL251852 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 25 Feb 84

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers, has received in the City of Havana Province Lima Mayor and leader of Peru's United Left Alfonso Barrante.

Joining in the conversation with Barrante were former Peruvian Ambassador to Cuba (Edgardo de Javis) and Peru's distinguished leftist personality Mrs (Lucia de Paletzi). The distinguished Peruvian leaders discussed the most salient points of the Latin American political situation.